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Oyster River High School
55 Coe Drive
Durham, NH 03824

MOUTH of the RIVER



April 17, 2007

2 News-Features

Security Issues at ORHS

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Stolen iPod

Karl Humm takes off with an unsuspecting Blair Kelley's i-pod.

The iPod lay on the top of the lockers in the Senior Core with its owner nowhere to be found. A greedy student saw the unguarded electronic device and crept up to it. The student quickly pocketed the iPod and took off. There were three witnesses to this robbery, sitting on a bench, not far away, and yet these students did nothing to stop the thief. All though this incident was staged, and the iPod was returned to its owner, the results of this experiment are alarming. It seems as if this high school is not a very trustworthy place, and it is recommended that one should not leave value objects out in the open.

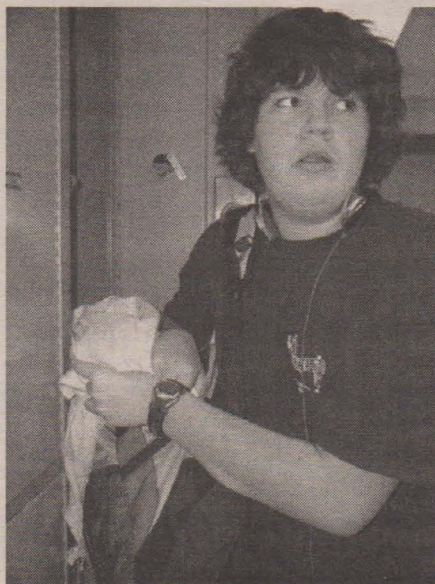
Maybe it's because we experienced the wrath of the 2005 seniors throwing eggs into our cars, or maybe it's because we've been here longer, but for some reason ORHS's seniors kept the majority of their cars locked; while the juniors were fairly balanced with their locking choices. Word to the wise: lock your cars!

Juniors

Unlocked- 25
Locked-34

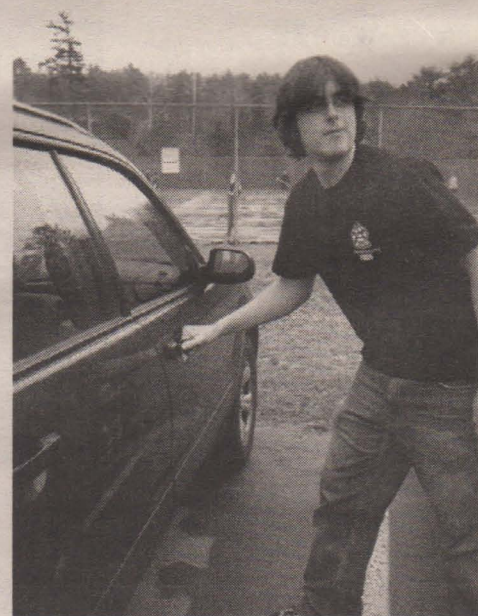
Seniors

Unlocked-21
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Bryce Harding shows how easy it is to break into a locker.

Lock your cars!



Dan Vaughn shows what can happen if you don't lock your cars!

When counted, 58 out of 710 assigned lockers had locks on them. No wonder our school has a theft problem. Compared with Spaulding and Dover ORHS does not have locks built in on their lockers. Maybe this is one of the causes of the theft problem. Lock your lockers!

Locked Lockers

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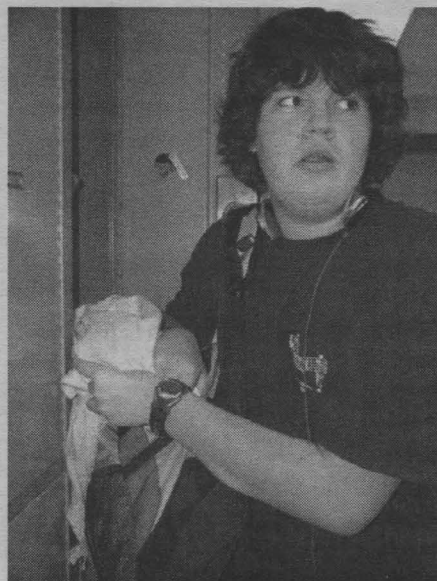
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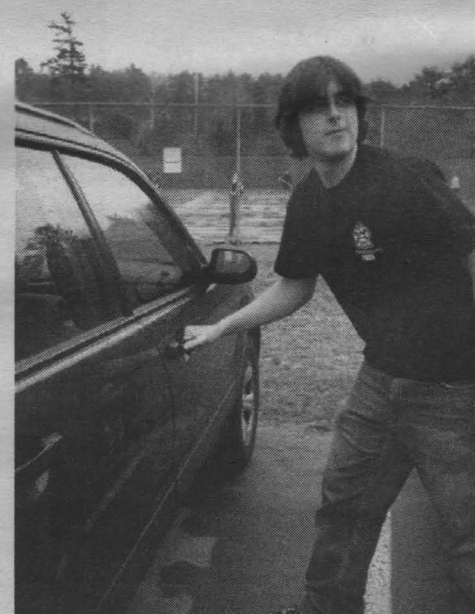
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Locked Lockers



Allison Krzanowski
News/Features

Security at ORHS continued: Getting into ORHS is easier than you think!

"Hi, where is the bathroom in this school?" asks Mike Fitzgerald.

"Go out of the cafeteria, down the hall a little, and it will be on your right," directs Mrs. Rogers.

Mike Fitzgerald is a 28 year old. He is a little bit scruffy and wearing large black earrings. Mike is clearly not a high school student. There is a sophomore girl talking to Mrs. Rogers who then says, "Who was that guy? He doesn't go to our school." Mrs. Rogers suddenly looks up and runs across the cafeteria to question the intruder.

Luckily, Mike is just a participant in our experiment on school security. The sophomore girl who noticed him was Martha Kobus. "He had these big holes in his ears and I could tell he didn't go to our school. You see everyone at our school," she said.

First, he tried to get in through the art room door where there is no window. A junior girl let him in, then she and her friends gave each other weird looks, but did not say anything.

Mike then went through the front office without being questioned.

He walked around the halls, around the library, and back around the halls again, a few times coming up to a dead end, looking a little confused, and then turning around.

He went out the door in the tower (by the staircase) and tried to knock on the window to get back in. This was the first time he did not easily enter the building; a few girls who, according to Mike, "looked like juniors or seniors," looked at him, and walked away. But soon after, an intern came to the door, let him in, and said, "You'll have to go around next time."

At this point, a senior boy said jokingly to his friend, "Hey look, there's a terrorist in our school!" and kept walking.

Mike then went into a teacher's room and asked for a pen. The teacher gave him one. When she was asked why she didn't question him, she said she had seen him interacting with students.

Then came the real test: getting past Mrs. Wotton. He walked out the door to outside by the cafeteria and right away was stopped with, "Okay, who are you?"

Next came the doors in the gym. These are also doors without windows. A student let him in, but as soon as he started walking through, Mrs. Mcphee was quick to say, "Hey, you, over here, right now!" Though she said she was ready to tackle him, she was very approving of our experiment when he explained who he was.

By this time, second lunch was starting, so Mike went outside and tried to get in through the glass doors on the way to the cafeteria. He was let in at least three times. One of the times, a sophomore girl even pushed her friend aside and said, "No, he was asking me to let him in!"

The last time he was let in, there were not many students in the hallway anymore and he was stopped by Dave Rosseau, a custodian.

Mike successfully went through the cafeteria line, even asking people, "Where do I have to go if I just want to buy a water?" He said he got a weird look from a teacher, but still was not stopped.

On the last test, Mike went back outside and through the office again, this time asking where the art room was. At this point, Kate Griffin, a secretary in the front office, told him he could not go to the art room because of classes.

Griffin did not think this was unusual. "We always have people coming in and asking if they can go to a teacher's room," she said, "We would have found out if he's supposed to see the teacher by calling the room"

Mrs. Wotton, assistant principal, said, "We shouldn't expect the front office secretaries to be the guardians of the school." She added that what was at fault in this situation was the set up of the front office. She hopes, in the future, to see a set up where anyone coming in the school has to walk directly past the secretaries.

Wotton also said that it's tough to monitor without cameras. "If we're going to secure the building we should be really serious. Otherwise stop talking about it," she said. "It's foolish to expect people to not leave doors open when there are no alarms."

Though Mike clearly had no trouble getting into our school, students are still feeling very safe. "I think [school security] is pretty good," said Kobus. "Freak accidents like that happen sometimes."



Mike Fitzgerald. A 28 year old man who was able to wander the grounds and hallways of Oyster River at will. Does he look like a high school student to you?

What do you think about the security issues at ORHS? Questions or concerns? Submit a letter to the Editor.



Allison Krzanowski
News/Features

Meaningful Projects

Do something meaningful. That is one of the options for Mrs. Raiford's sociology finals. We have to do something meaningful, either for ourselves, or for others- often both.

Mrs. Raiford has had excellent outcomes from this project in the past, the most memorable being when a student who was adopted found her biological parents. Another successful project was when a student started a correspondence with her grandmother. "The letters that came out of that were pretty amazing," said Raiford.

She first thought of this in her education unit. She was thinking about how the structure of school can often be stifling for some students. She then wanted to find a way to open up time for students to do meaningful learning that they also got credit for.

"I think it grew out of my desire to hand learning over to the students and giving them the opportunity to decide for themselves what they valued."

Cassie de Alba and I are making t-shirts as a fundraiser for the Invisible Children. These will be sold at lunch, or you can find either of us at anytime to purchase one. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 for the cause by selling about 300 shirts.

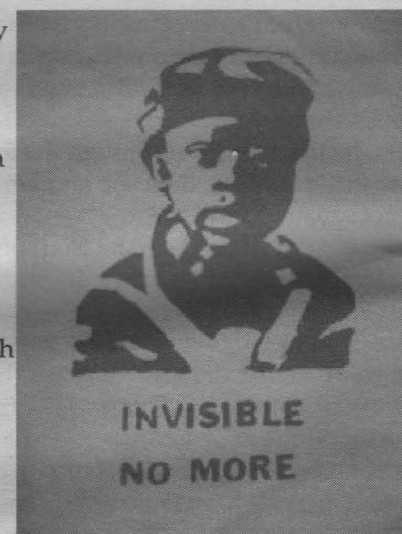
Jordan Stinson and Rachel Rines are organizing a run, also for the Invisible Children. Details will come at a later date, but they are hoping for sometime in August.

Lucy Lent plans to write down, a couple times a week, all the things in her world that bother her. At the end she will compare these issues she's having to the problems of people across the world. Her goal is to put her problems in perspective and learn about the different struggles of people around the world.

Jessica Richards, Megan Sievert, and Sarah Grant were inspired by the movie at diversity day to raise money for *Schools for Schools*, a program for the Invisible Children. They plan on doing fundraising through bake sales and maybe selling jewelry.

Cecilia Low-Weiner plans to study the slow food movement. The slow food movement is to bring people back to the table with locally grown foods. It encourages people to stay away from fast foods and eating on the run. She has yet to decide where exactly she plans on going with this topic.

Sammy Datti and Katie Tong are making a CD to raise money for the Invisible Children. Many students, including Peter Cooley and Liza Behrendt, plan on writing their own songs about the issue to put on the CD.



The MOR Staff is getting involved in our community!

The Mouth of the River staff will be raising money for causes for the final issue. Check out what the staff is doing. And, if a cause interests you – get on board!

In honor of her brother, Ben Williams, who is serving in the Army in Bagdad, Mrs. Kucera will be doing a 100 mile bike ride in May with her Mom. They will be raising money for Operation Helmet, a non-profit organization that supplies better-padded helmets to the troops, reducing their risk of injury. Contact Mrs. Kucera if you're interested in making a per mile donation.

Emily Sievert, Blair Kelley, Sam Kerrigan, Joe Gehling, Cassie deAlba, Allison Krzanowski, and Caitlin Byrne will be participating in the Relay for life in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. They will be walking around the outdoor track at Portsmouth High School to raise money for the American cancer society. Contact Mrs. Schaeffer or anyone of these students if you are interested in donating money for the American Cancer Society.

Rockfur-Darfur Tuesday May 8th 6-9 in the Multi-Purpose Room \$3.00

It's been said that music has many unbeknownst powers. The power to move, the power to heal and the power to sooth the savage beast. Music also has the power to create change and that's just what this event is going to do. First there was Live Aid then there was Live 8 then there was Oyster Aid and now there's Rockfur-Darfur. Oyster River's greatest club ever (PIT) is partnering up some Oyster River students who are involved in a Darfur group at school and they're first effort is to put on this show. So go and hear some good tunes from Oyster River musicians and help fight for this cause. And for more information on the genocide in Darfur go to Savedarfur.org

How accepting is Oyster River?



Allison Krzanowski
News/Features

A white student jumps between two black students and says, "Hey, look! It's an Oreol!"

The diversity day poster in the core had "gay" written across it within a few days.

The GSA poster in the second tower hallway mysteriously disappeared.

How accepting is Oyster River? We like to think of ourselves as a very liberal, tolerant school, but are we really? Clearly, there are some students at Oyster River who are not

very accepting, but is that just a select few, or is it the vast majority?

Jana O'Leary, a junior and member of GSA said, "Originally, I thought we were accepting, but after we lost the GSA poster, it makes me wonder if there are different sects of people who are less accepting." She also explained that she thinks the discrimination mostly verbal and has not seen it go as far as physical violence.

Katie Tong, a senior, had a slightly different view. "I think Oyster River goes so far out of its way to be accepting that they make a way bigger deal out of it than it needs to be." Tong, who is half Chinese, did not feel that she was discriminated against. "I've never thought of myself as being that different than everyone else," she said. "My mom's Caucasian and my dad's Asian. I didn't even realize I was half and half until I was, like, six."

Tong, however, felt that there was another issue that Oyster River was not so accepting about: religion. "They're very tolerant of certain issues. They're all for gay rights and very tolerant of minorities," she said. "They're so tolerant of those issues that they're not as tolerant of issues such as Christianity." Tong said that there were a lot of stereotypes about Christianity.

Peter Cooley, also a senior, added that whenever he mentioned something about his beliefs, things would get really awkward. "This school is very politically correct, but political correctness stops when it comes to Christianity," he said.

But can students just naturally be accepting when there is such little diversity in our school? According to Kathy Callwood, the lack of diversity is what makes it an issue. "I'd say if we were thrust into diversity that it wouldn't work out," she said. "People aren't openly hostile; it's just such a culture shock."

Mr. Zottoli had a similar opinion. "That's what I call the Oyster River bubble," he said. He then explained the situation he's seen so many times: a derogatory term scrawled across any given poster in the hallway. Though most people would think that only a few people are at fault, Mr. Zottoli disagreed. "It's three people who do it and there are 50 people who watch it be done. Then there's another 100 people who see it and say 'that's bad', then 500 say, 'hmm, that shouldn't be there.' Then *maybe* one person will finally see it and do something."

Hooram Nam, a junior, does not feel he has been discriminated against. "People make fun of Asians, but I don't really care, because I do too," he said. "Even though they do that, I know they don't mean it. If they did mean it, I'd be pissed." He pointed out that it's different for Asians to joke about their ethnicity than it is for people of a different race to make fun of Asians. He also said that he has seen other races be discriminated against more than his own.

Kathy Callwood is West Indian and she feels that she has been discriminated against as well. She said it was more subtle though and that it was "ignorance, not intent". Callwood explained that once she was being interviewed by another student and he kept asking "Do you like rap? Is your dad a rapper?" and then, "Why don't you like rap? You're black."

Callwood has been to a lot of different school districts and says there is racism

and prejudice everywhere, but here, they're just better at hiding it. "I think everybody has stereotypes," she said. "I've gotten pretty good at ignoring it." She also pointed out that it may just be that people don't see a lot of diversity at Oyster River, so they're just surprised when they do see it. "When I first moved here, people were like, 'What are you doing here? There's no diversity here,'" she said.

Manu Putcha, a freshman, is Indian and has experienced a lot of ignorance as well. He felt that Oyster River was "pretty good", but also pointed out that has been discriminated against. "People call me names sometimes, but I don't really take it seriously," he said. Putcha explained that there are still a lot of stereotypes. He said that people think he should be really smart, but that he doesn't think of himself as any smarter than anyone else. Other than that, he felt it was more just ignorance. "I'm a vegetarian and some people don't respect that," he said. "They're like 'Why don't you just try meat?'"

Though a lot of it might be ignorance, there seems to be some definite

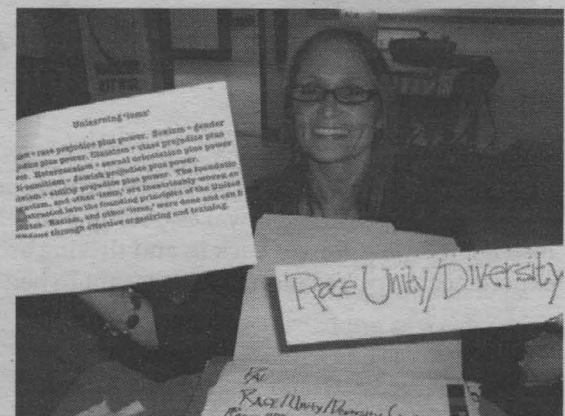
racism as well. Ricky Owuor, a freshman, is half American and half Kenyan. He feels that Oyster River is usually pretty accepting- probably an 8.5 on a scale of 1-10. However, he has been discriminated against a lot as well. He said that the discrimination is most prominent when he is walking with his friend Isaiah, who is also a minority. "Some stupid kids walk around asking us if we have a gun, and ask us what gang we belong to, stuff

like that," said Owuor. "And every time we do something they'll be like 'Whoa, that's not gangster!'"

Owuor has not only seen students discriminate, but teachers as well. He pointed out that even just walking down the halls teachers will, without any reason, tell him and Isaiah to stay out of trouble. "We've never done anything!" he added. Owuor has noticed teachers making other stereotypes as well. He said that with a music project, he and Isaiah were automatically put in the rap group. "They also put me with him all the time," he said. "They just kind of stick us in one group."

Oyster River's Principal, Mrs. Rogers, has noticed a lot of this racism, prejudice, and stereotyping as well. "I see a lot of thoughtless negativity," she said. She, too, had seen the "oreo" situation and found it very upsetting. "What are they thinking?!" she exclaimed. "Who is that stupid that they would say that and think it's funny?" Rogers then came up with a new idea, "For people who do thoughtless things like that, I wish I could drop them in the middle of a minority community and see how people denigrate them when they're a minority. I'm thinking Roxbury."

Though Oyster River seems to be a very liberal and accepting school, it seems that we have a long way to go. However, Mrs. Kucera had a positive outlook. She said that her generation was much less accepting than ours, so there is hope for the future.



Ms. Salazar promotes tolerance through the Race Unity/Diversity Club.

"For people who do thoughtless things like that, I wish I could drop them in the middle of a minority community and see how people denigrate them when they're a minority. I'm thinking Roxbury." -- Mrs. Rogers

6 News-Features



Caitlin Byrne

Not going anywhere for April vacation? It's okay, these ORHS students share their exciting plans.

The waves are crashing behind your back and the soft breeze of Cancun, Mexico is blowing the sand beneath you....then your mom wakes you up and tells you to let the cat back in. Well, unfortunately for some students, this will probably be their April vacation. But instead of letting the cat back in and driving around the store 24 parking lot for hours on a Saturday night, some ORHS students are headed out of Durham to experience April Vacation like it's meant to be.

Florida

Krissy McKernan

-Where are you going?

Florida

-For how long?

A week

-How many times have you been there?

Three

-Who are you going with?

My entire family.

-What do you plan to do?

Spending time with my family and swimming in the ocean. Just relaxing all around.

-What are you most excited for?

Just relaxing and being tan again!



Russia

Ireland

Emily and Megan Sievert

-Where are you going?

Ireland

-Who are you going with?

Our mom and her fiancé Scott.

-How long are you going for?

7 days

-Where are you staying?

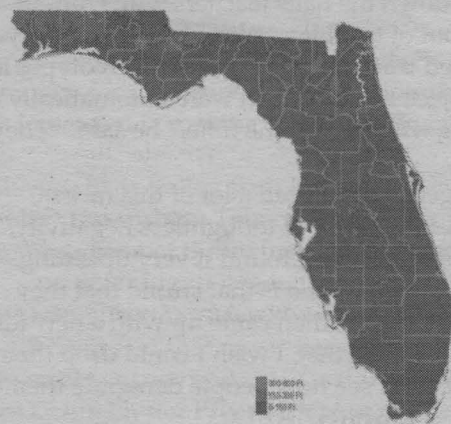
We are doing a lot of driving down the Ring of Kerry then going to Waterford, Dublin and Galway then back to Shannon where we flew in from.

-What do you plan to do on the trip?

Sight see, bike and drink. Hey, it's legal there.

-What are you most excited for?

Dublin. We are there for 3 days. It's going to be amazing.



Oyster River High School's Russia Excursion

Mrs. Horsley

-Where are you going?

We will stay the bulk of the trip in Novgorod but we are taking side trips to Saint Petersburg, and possibly Moscow. If we don't go to Moscow we will likely be going to Pskov.

-How many students are going?

Ten students and Mrs. Rosi and myself.

-How long is your trip?

It's almost two and a half weeks. From April 19th to May 5th.

-Who are the students going to be staying with?

They are staying with host families.

-Are any of the students staying with each other?

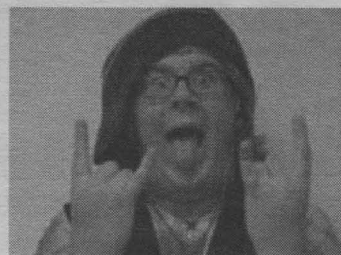
No they are all by themselves.

-What do you think the students are looking forward to the most?

I think the host families and just the entire trip it's going to be a great experience.

Ireland





Greyson Ersick

Political Prisoners in America

Picture a man sitting alone in a jail cell on death row. He's sitting writing in his notebook, the same one he's been writing in for years. Every day he's written in this diary. He

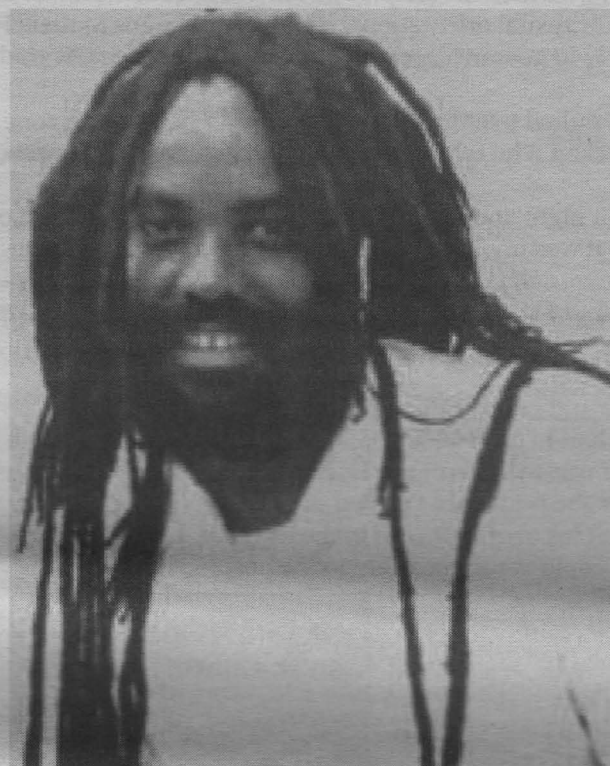
used to write about the pain of being in this place, but now he doesn't even bother with it anymore. He can't explain it; nobody can. He knows there are people out there fighting for him, fighting to get him out. "But now it's too late, there's no hope," he thinks to himself.

Just then comes the muffled sound of two men talking on the other side of his cell door. The door unlocks and swings open and the two men whisk away the prisoner.

In the broadest sense possible, a political prisoner by definition is someone who is in prison with little or no legal evidence to show that the person really committed the crime. Throughout history there have been a plethora of examples of political prisoners. Many have been considered martyrs, fighting for a cause they believe in. Some have been fodder for civil rights activists, claiming that some are in jail due to racism. Some of the world's biggest historical figures were considered political prisoners. These include Fidel Castro, who was in jail from 1953-1955 till he got out and led a rebellion to overthrow the government. Also there was Nelson Mandela (for those of you who remember what you learned in World Cultures), who was also a political prisoner from 1962-1990.

From prison he negotiated to end apartheid and later became president of South Africa. And, of course, America's most famous political prisoner, Martin Luther King Jr.

In today's world many consider those held in Guantánamo Bay political prisoners. As of November 2006, according to Msnbc.com, there are 775 prisoners in "Gitmo," and it's disputed on whether or not those being held have any sort of evidence against them. And human rights activist group Amnesty International is working to investigate the



Mumia Abu-Jamal

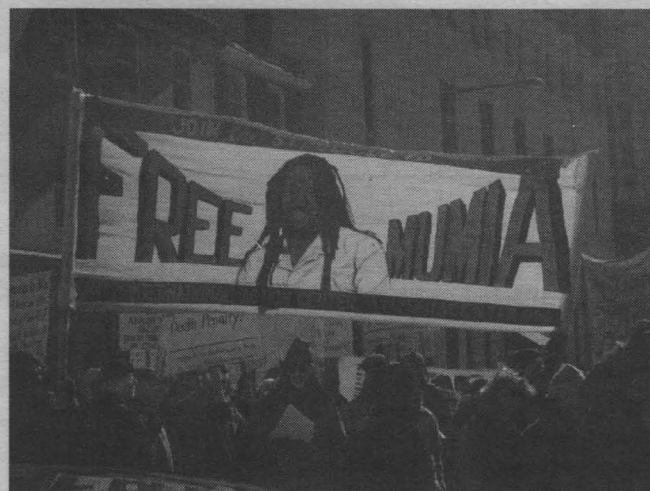
four additional shots at close range, one of them striking Faulkner in the face, killing the policeman. Abu-Jamal was unable to flee due to his own gunshot wound, and was taken into custody. Abu-Jamal's side of the story was that he had been sitting in his cab across the street when he heard the sound of gunshots. Abu-Jamal also claims that, upon seeing his brother standing in the street staggering and dizzy, he ran across the street to Cook and was shot by a uniformed police officer (not Faulkner). Abu-Jamal also claims he was tortured by the police before receiving medical aid.

The real controversy in this case is the amount of actual evidence against Abu-Jamal that was present during the case. Everything from irregularities in witness accounts to insufficient ballistic information.

Since the trial there have been many case turnovers and appeals, but still Abu-Jamal sits in jail. Whether or not you think Abu-Jamal did it, there are a lot of other cases disputed cases going on in the world that you might think are unjust. If you want to get involved just check out www.Amnesty.org.

very long story and case short: on the night of December 9th, 1981 Abu-Jamal was working as a cab driver. He was near his brother David Cook's car when it was stopped by an officer named Daniel Faulkner, who was then murdered. According to reports on the website freemumia.org, Cook assaulted Faulkner, who then attempted to subdue Cook.

At this point Abu-Jamal emerged from the nearby taxi which he was driving and shot Faulkner in the back. Faulkner was able to return fire, seriously wounding Abu-Jamal. Abu-Jamal then advanced on Faulkner, and fired



People rallying for Abu-Jamal

ethical treatment of those prisoners in Gitmo.

Possibly one of the biggest and most prolific examples of a political prisoner is Mumia Abu-Jamal. Abu-Jamal's case has been of many twists and turns. He started out as a journalist and a civil rights activist in Philadelphia. He was a member of a famed, very liberal civil rights group called MOVE. But to make a

Pictures courtesy of freemumia.org

8 News-Features



Caitlin Byrne News/Features

Speeding Tickets: Are girls less likely to receive them?

"From my personal opinion and the Durham Police Department if I had to guess, and I mean guess, I would say that boys probably have fewer tickets than girls. Just because of the fact that there are more girls than boys at UNH," said Officer Levesque.

Officer Levesque's statement is quite different than the Oyster River High Schools student opinions. "It depends on the cop's sexual orientation," said Junior Dragos Maftai. However other students polled at ORHS think it is easier for girls to get out of tickets. So are girls more likely to get out a speeding ticket? These brave OR students shared their stories and their persuasive methods of overcoming law enforcement's wrath.

Allison Krzanowski- "I got pulled over for going 10mph over in a 40mph zone. When he asked me why I was going fast, I told him I really had to go to the bathroom. He laughed and asked who told me to say that. He then commented on my Alice and Wonderland sticker I had. He gave me a verbal warning and let me go. He was nice."

Joe Gehling- "It was 11:30 at night and I was pulled over for speeding 15mph over in a 40mph zone. He didn't really say much to me he just asked if I knew the car behind me and I said yes it was my friend then he gave me a written warning. It wasn't that bad."

Caitlin Guarino- "I was late for school and I just wanted to get there." I was pulled over for going 55mph in a 35mph. He asked why I was going so fast especially near the police station and I started stressing out and yelling that I was late for school and then I started to kind of cry. He let me go with a verbal warning. It was extremely lucky."

Officer Levesque's ridiculous and not so ridiculous excuses:

"Once a guy told me that he had to go to McDonalds. He hadn't eaten since that morning and was really hungry. That was probably the worst I've heard. For the best, once I pulled over someone who was just trying to get his pregnant wife to the hospital. I called an ambulance so they could continue safely to the hospital."

What do you recommend when people are pulled over?

"The best thing to do is to not make any sudden movements. Don't be fishing for anything if the officer is walking towards the vehicle because they don't know what you're looking for. The best thing to do is to put your hands on the steering wheel and wait to find your information until they approach you."

Taken at ORHS:

Is it easier for a boy or a girl to get out of a speeding ticket?

Girls:

50

Boys:

0

Who answered:

Girls:25

Boys:25

Overheards from New York

"Friendly black guy, it's all right! I love your look." -advertising for a comedy club, talking to Mrs. Kucera

"Alcohol and comedy, yay! Alcohol and comedy, yay!" - Someone else advertising for the comedy club

"I would like to schedule a play date. He's really lonely. It will only be a five minute play date." -A five year old boy walking down the street by himself, talking on a high-tech cell phone.

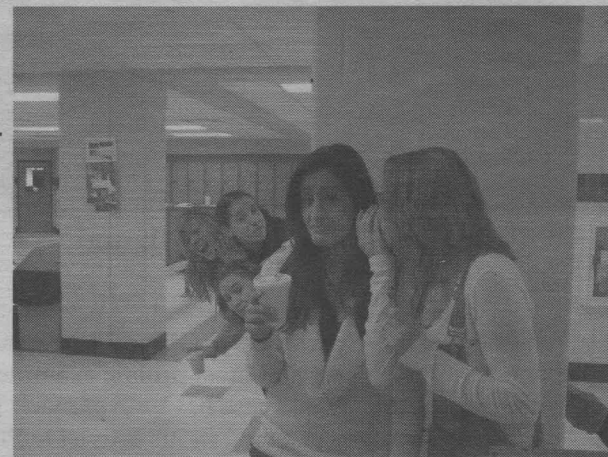
"I thought there were three Charlie's Angels!" - A construction worker talking to two MOR girls.

"Four guys aren't going to sit together on the toilet and watch college basketball." -Blair Kelley

"Wow, that's a nice chest!" - Mrs. Kucera, talking about a jewelry box.

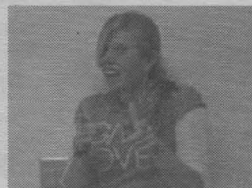
"Greyson, would you like a tampon?" -Nate Santos

"The five second rule doesn't apply for subway floors." -Cassie de Alba





Caitlin Byrne
News/Features



Emily Sievert
Sports

Cafeteria Swap



Cassie deAlba
Op-Ed



Allison Krzanowski
News/Features

Four members of the MOR bravely went to different schools around the seacoast area and sampled their cafeteria food. Here are the results:

Cocheco Arts and Technology Academy Barrington NH

Emily and I went to CATA, which is a charter school that has only been open for about two and a half years. The first thing that we did was find my mom, who is the principal so she could ask a student if we could sample there food.

We weren't able to buy our own because they get their food from Barrington Middle School and they have to preorder lunches at the beginning of each month.

The cafeteria is small but there are only 45 students in the entire school so what can you expect. Most of the kids were really curious as to why Emily and I were there.

Their lunch was pretty typical of a high school lunch. They had spaghetti and salad and choice of fruit and a drink. Although it was bland the people were nice to "let us" sample their food.

Overall grade: 7.5

Phillips Exeter Academy Exeter NH

The first thing Cassie and I had to do at our cafeteria swap was find the friend we were visiting. At Oyster River, this would not have been too hard; you could probably just scan the cafeteria and see if the person you were looking for was in it. However, at Phillips Exeter, there are two cafeterias and about three rooms in each.

Not only was the cafeteria huge, the food was amazing as well. We had a pasta dish, rice and bean salad, and croissants. There were sandwich foods as well. Our friend told us that we "did not pick a good day to come to lunch because the food is usually better."

Though this cafeteria was excellent, it is a private/boarding school. They have to provide meals for people with many different food restrictions.

Overall grade: 8.5

SENIOR CALENDER: WE'RE ALMOST DONE!

Tues. April 17th: Battle of the Bands

Thurs April 19th: Parent meeting on drug and alcohol issues

Fri. April 20th: Earth Day

Tues. May 1st: Mr. Bobcat

Tues. May 8th: Rock for Darfur

Tues May 8th: Foreign Language Honor Society induction

Thurs. May 10th and Fri. May 11th: Senior Follies

Sat. May 12th: Drama Club mystery theater dinner

Fri. May 18th: Jr/Sr Prom at the New England Center

Thurs. May 24th: National Honor Society induction

Fri. June 1st: Awards Assembly

Fri. June 1st: Baccalaureate and Scholarship Evening

June 2nd: Relay for Life

Mon. June 4th: A/B Finals

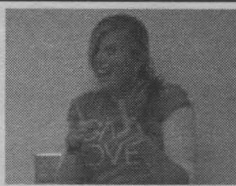
Tues June 5th: C/D Finals

Wed. June 6th: E/F Finals and mandatory graduation rehearsal

Thurs. June 7th: G/Make-up finals- Mandatory graduation rehearsal and senior banquet at 6:30 pm at the Rockingham Ballroom in Newmarket

Fri June 8th:- Morning mandatory graduation rehearsal

6pm: GRADUATION



Emily Sievert Sports

Man Burns Down Garage Because of Curiosity

Novelist (27 books) David Eddings, 75, accidentally destroyed his Carson City, Nev., garage and part of his next-door office in January while he was flushing out the gas tank of his idle sports car. He said later that his intention was to remove the gasoline from the car to reduce the fire risk, but then he saw that some fluid had leaked onto the garage floor. For some reason, Eddings' curiosity about the leak (water or gasoline?) caused him to light a piece of paper and toss it onto the puddle, just to find out. "One word comes to mind," he later told the Nevada Appeal. "Dumb." [Nevada Appeal, 1-26-07]

Weird News Stories

Chinese Cat Says His Own Name

Mr. Sun, from Beijing, owns a cat that he named "Agui." Supposedly the cat says his name when he is frightened. The first time Mr. Sun recalls hearing Agui do this was when he went to give him a bath. At first, Agui just "meowed" a few times and then said "Agui" very clearly. The cat sounded like a child at first but now has a pronounced voice that clearly says "Agui." An animal specialist in China thinks that if Mr. Sun works with Agui, he will be able to teach him more Chinese.

"Paper Viagra" Pills Being Burned in China

Paper tablets being made to look like Viagra pills are being sold in Beijing cemeteries to be burned at relatives' grave sites. Supposedly, burning Viagra after a loved one's death gives them luck with sex in the afterlife. These "pills" have been sold for the past few months and are growing more popular at burials.

Passports Thought to Contain "Satanic" Symbols

Russian citizens who own passports that are close to expiring, are refusing to get new ones. Residents are complaining that a new passport company in Russia is including "666" in the bar codes on passports. Some Russians in Bogolyubovo have gone as far as not picking up their mail because they believe that some post offices may include satanic symbols on their bar codes as well.

Man Leaves Police Easy Clues in Robbery

Recently in Berlin, Germany, a thief snapped his credit card in half while trying to pick the lock of a neighboring apartment. When police arrived, half of the credit card was lying on the floor, leaving the police with the man's name and account details. The occupant of the apartment had heard someone fidgeting with his lock and had scared the thief away when he had gone to the door. When police arrived at the thief's house, the other half of the card was lying in plain view on his kitchen table.



Emily Sievert Sports

Can you believe this!?

The first day of spring this year brought warm weather, needed sunshine, and the feeling of summer. Yet that was not all it brought. Among those other things was also free Dunkin' Donuts small iced coffees, and a lot of people knew that. Frequent trips were made that day by Oyster River students to the small Dunkin' Donuts located in Gibbs Gas Station on Rt. 108. Students celebrated the new season by leaving school during their free periods, lunches, or asking to leave their regular classes to get a free small coffee. Most students know that leaving school grounds during the school day is not permitted unless a signed permission form is submitted to the school allowing that student to leave during their free G-period or to arrive late during their free A-period. Since a lot of students left that day, the administration had to act and ended up punishing 10 or so students that got caught roaming the halls with their iced coffees. Word to the wise: drink the coffee before you get back to school.

Student Reaction:

"We should have an open campus." -Ty Guarino, Junior.
"I think it's stupid that you can't go out if you have a free period." -Megan Sievert, Senior

The month of March seemed to be an eventful month not only in student's lives, but also among the administration. One event that affected a large number of students was the letters that were sent home to parents about illegal activity that their son or daughter was involved in. Supposedly the whole thing started when concerned parents in the district placed pictures concerning illegal activity in the hands of the ORHS administration. "What most people don't understand is that, when something like that happens, we have to act. I've taken phone calls before about so and so wrapping himself around a telephone pole. I hate those and sometimes something needs to be done," said Vice Principal Dave Evans about the issue. Students who were identified in the pictures, received letters in the mail addressed to their parents about an open forum or meeting that is going to be held April 19th. There the issues of communication between parents and children and the issue of substance abuse will be addressed. What students don't know is that they are also welcome. Principal Laura Rogers had thoughts on the issue: "This whole thing wasn't about peering over anybody's shoulder. It's just; can you imagine how I'd feel if someone in the pictures hurt themselves while drinking over the weekend, had I not said anything? I just want to talk to parents about being outlets for their kids and providing them with safe things to do!"

Note: The forum was changed from its original date of April 10th to allow all parents in the district to attend. Letters are now being sent home to all parents about the forum, alerting them of a substance abuse problem at Oyster River.

Student Reactions:

"I think that the school has to send them out because they can get in legal trouble if they don't, but it's just stupid how it happened and it shouldn't have. Whoever turned the pictures in should take responsibility for their own kid before they get other ones in trouble. People should mind their own business." -Derrick Kotlus, Junior.



What's Happenin?!

Greyson Ersick News/Features

Here are the upcoming movies, concerts and albums. Check them out!

Movies

April 20th

Vacancy- Mysteriously trapped inside their room at an out-of-the-way motel, a young married couple learns they have become the stars of a slasher film.

The Nanny Diaries- A college student goes to work as a nanny for a rich New York family. Ensnared in their home, she has to juggle their dysfunction, her studies, a new romance, and the spoiled brat in her charge.

April 27th

Next- Cornered by the FBI after a relentless pursuit, a man with the ability to see future events and affect their outcome faces an ultimatum, as the country's intelligence agencies scramble to prevent a devastating terrorist attack.

The Condemned- As Joe Conrad awaits the death penalty in a Central American prison, he's purchased by a TV producer and transported to a remote island where a 10-person, fight-to-the-death battle is to be staged and broadcast online.

Kickin It Old Skool- In 1986, a young breakdancer hits his head during a talent show, sending him into a coma for twenty years. When he awakens, with the mindset of a 12-year-old, he looks to rally his old dance teammates and revive their short-lived careers.

May 4th

Spider-Man 3 Peter Parker a.k.a. Spider-Man, is challenged by two villains: Sandman, an escaped convict made powerful by a nuclear explosion, and Venom, a parasitic life form from our hero's past.

Lucky You- Professional card player Huck Cheever tries to beat the odds (and his own demons) at the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas.

Greysons Pick- 28 Weeks Later... The sequel to the zombie classic 28 Days Later Six months after London was struck by the rage virus, the city is being carefully repopulated by the U.S. Army. Though under quarantine, a carrier of the virus is admitted to the city and unknowingly causes a second deadly outbreak.

May 18th

Shrek the Third- When his new father-in-law, King Harold falls ill, Shrek the ogre is looked at as the heir to the land of Far, Far Away. Not one to give up his beloved swamp, Shrek recruits his friends Donkey and Puss to install the rebellious Artie as the new king. Princess Fiona, however, rallies a band of royal girlfriends to fend off a coup d'état by the jilted Prince Charming

May 25th

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End- As the threat to pirates-at-large near its climax, Will Turner and Elizabeth Swann form an alliance with surprise accomplice Captain Barbossa and sail to the Far East in order to save Jack Sparrow from the mysterious afterworld known as Davey Jones's Locker

Source IMDB.com

Concerts

April 22nd UNH Solarfest, Congreve Hall Durham, NH

April 26th Tim Reynolds, The Stone Church Newmarket, NH

April 27th Modest Mouse, Orpheum Theater Boston, Massachusetts

April 28th The Brew, the Stone Church Newmarket, NH

April 28- April 29th New England Metal and Hardcore Festival, The Palladium Worcester, Massachusetts

April 29th Wolfmother, Avalon Boston Massachusetts

April 29th The Killers, Tsongas Arena Lowell Massachusetts

May 3rd and 4th- They Might Be Giants, The Stone Church Newmarket, NH

May 5th Hellogoodbye, Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom Hampton, NH

May 9th Rod Stewart, Verizon Wireless Arena Manchester, NH

May 20th Dr. John The Music Hall Portsmouth, NH



Courtesy of www.imdb.com

Albums

April 24th

Arctic Monkeys- Favourite Worst Nightmare

Cowboy Junkies- At The End of Paths Taken

Fishbone- Still Stuck in Your Throat

The Nightwatchman - One Man Revolution

Greyson's Pick: (This is first solo effort from Rage Against the Machine and Audioslave guitarist Tom Morrello don't expect any classic Tom Morrello guitar tricks on this one it's a folk album)

May 1st

Tori Amos- American Doll Posse

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club- Baby 81

Dinosaur Jr- Beyond

Rush- Snakes and Arrows

May 8th

The Bad Plus- PROG

Bjork- Volta

Eliot Smith- New Moon

May 15th

Wilco- Sky Blue Sky

Satellite Party (Perry Farrell of Jane's Addiction)- Ultra Payloaded

Open Campus: What is it and why don't we have one?



Blair KelleyOp-Ed Department

There is a lot of controversy that floats around Oyster River High School throughout the course of the year, but there is one that is possibly more prominent

than any other: the debate over having an open campus. Upperclassmen want it, the majority of the faculty despises the idea, but either way, there is no hiding it. After having heard the debate throughout my high school tenure, I've decided to break down the details of this issue and hopefully find some resolution. The students deserve to know why we don't have it and hopefully the situation will be better understood after reading this article.

An open campus is unofficially described as a school system where students are free to leave the school during the day as long as it's during a free period.

To give a bit of a historical background to the issue, I searched the school and found insight from two veterans of Oyster River: teachers Paul Gasowski and Sue Smith. While both had slightly different recollections, they both shared a similar opinion. Oyster River was never officially classified as a high school with an open campus, but the rules weren't as enforced as they are now.

"No one was ever supposed to leave the building without permission," said Smith, "however, it wasn't really enforced."

This was a long time back however. The "open campus" era ended somewhere during the early 1980s. There was some controversy when it came to an end, but Gasowski did not seem at all surprised by the decision.

"There was a lot of abuse on the school area," he stated, "People were leaving and going off into the woods...the decision needed to be made."

While the abuse of the privilege played a big role in the overall decision of eliminating the open campus, Gasowski also felt that the decision, ultimately, was inevitable.

"Things have really changed since back then," he said, "the primary reasons for the restrictions now are for liability issues." The liability issues revolve primarily around driving. Teachers and administrators do not want to worry about a student getting in a car accident downtown.

Gasowski went on to give a few examples of the "old" school saying that he used to be able to drive students places in order to film for his videotape production class.

After learning about the history of this topic, I sought for some student opinions to see if the common notion of wanting an open campus was actually correct. To my surprise, there were clashing viewpoints from the people I talked with. Among the people that supported the idea of an open campus, the consensus seemed to be that it should be an upperclassmen privilege.

"I think they (upperclassmen) should be allowed to go outside and possibly downtown during their free periods," stated Senior Jeff Coburn. "If you're 18, you should definitely be allowed to leave the school."

On the opposite side of the spectrum, Junior Greg Gilmore felt much differently.

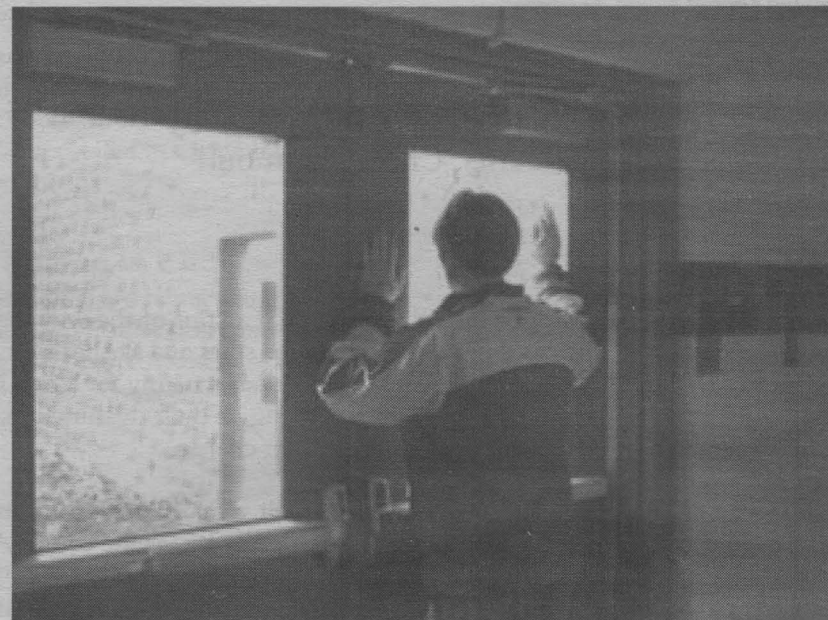
"I don't think people are responsible enough to have this," he said. "If kids acted more responsibly as a whole and more respectful, it could maybe happen in the future."

There is one constant argument that is brought up during discussions about open campus and that is the fact that Hanover High School has an open campus. People feel that since both Hanover and Oyster River are located in college towns and are both essentially downtown, they should both be allowed to have an open campus. To find out the details on Hanover's situation, I talked with their assistant principal, Alice Creagh.

"This privilege is only for 10th, 11th and 12th graders," said Creagh. "It's also only for students who are passing all of their classes." In addition to those rules, Creagh also pointed out a few more guidelines. In order to leave school, students must sign out and they also must not have any obligations at the time they leave the school. The system seems to be effective at Hanover and further adds to the pro open campus argument here at Oyster River.

To get to the bottom of the issue, I went straight to our principal Laura Rogers. She seemed to have a few opinions as to why Oyster River has not instituted an open campus policy.

"We have so much tardiness and cutting right now in this school. If we had a lower rate of cutting I would be more comfortable about having it," she said. She also cited driving as being a



Senior Pat Jackson dreams of leaving school during his free period.

problem. Realistically, students at Oyster River would have to drive in order to get downtown. This differs from Hanover which is actually situated right in the middle of downtown. Her overall viewpoint, however, seemed to be that this is clearly a liability issue. There would be a lot of worrying from the administration with an open campus.

At the moment, the open campus situation doesn't seem to be making any progress. The administration feels that students are not responsible enough to handle this privilege. When talking to people, they all seemed to feel that if the rate of cutting and being tardy went down, this issue would be looked into more by the administration. For now, the responsibility is in the hands of the students to make the right decisions in order to make this movement more successful.

**"Things have really changed....the primary reasons for the restrictions now are for liability issues."
-Teacher Paul Gasowski**

Senior Community Service Day!

On March 16, the class of 2007 participated in a senior community service day throughout the district. Below are picture of seniors lending a hand.



"It was one of the best things that we have done with the senior class. We want to do it again next year."

-Assistant Principal, Dave Evans

"It was fun to do something different with the seniors."

-Senior Class Advisor, Heather Healy

"It sucked that it was on a teacher workshop day, but it wasn't that bad."

-Ben Vallier



"I would have gone if I wasn't doing Relay for Life stuff. It looked like everyone had fun."

-Sarah Grant

"It was a good concept, but I wish I had more to do! I was at the High School that day and I ended up playing Knock-out."

-Caitlin Byrne



Mouth of the River

Positions and Department: Issues 1-3

Editor in Chief – Blair Kelley
 Business Manager – Allison Krzanowski
 Double Truck Editor – Greyson Ersick
 Photo Editor – Cassie de Alba
 Circulation Manager – Caitlin Byrne
 News Manager – Emily Sievert

News and Features –

Greyson Ersick – Department Head
 Allison Krzanowski – Photo Editor
 Caitlin Byrne – Layout Editor

Op-Ed –

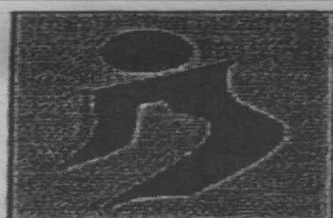
Blair Kelley – Department Head
 Cassie de Alba – Photo Editor
 Sam Kerrigan – Layout Editor

Sports –

Emily Sievert – Department Head and Photo Editor
 Joe Gehling – Layout Editor

Standards for Mouth of the River articles

1. Articles should be creative and innovative
2. Articles shall not be hurtful or target individuals
3. Include a variety of sources that represent everyone
4. Don't plagiarize or fabricate
5. Put the interests of the paper ahead of your own.
6. Articles should be appealing and make the reader want to read them.
7. The newspaper should look like a professional publication – with eye-catching pictures, design and articles.
8. The paper should be fun for everyone.
9. Put effort into all articles and take your work seriously.
10. Avoid bias in articles, excluding op-ed.



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 Dover, NH 03820
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www.doverwomenshealth.com

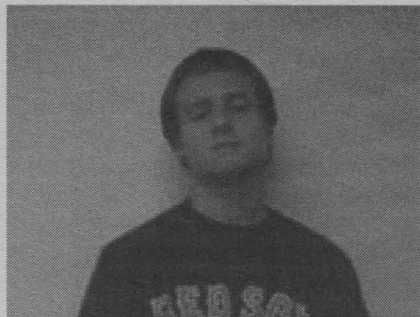
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Blair Kelley Op-Ed Department

Letter From the Editor: The Online Picture Debate

Imagine this. You have just recently finished your college application process after months of hard work. You scrambled to write essays, track down teachers for recommendations and met with guidance on numerous occasions. Now you receive a letter from your top college telling you that you have been rejected. You're stunned. There is no way your grades weren't good enough, the whole situation just doesn't make sense. And then all of a sudden it hits you, all the times you spent drinking this summer were documented on Webshots. This situation leads to a very controversial question: Should pictures from the internet be allowed to be used against you?

I have struggled with this issue. Obviously there has been the recent controversy with the letters that were sent home as a result of pictures that were found. It's hard to know exactly where to place blame. I personally feel that although these are public pictures online and anyone is allowed to see them, it's a little unfair to go looking to get people in trouble. On the other hand however, I don't think it's the smartest idea to post pictures of you and your friends online. I also understand that it's hard for administrators to ignore this issue when they are being informed by others. I have some feelings on the whole thing which help give some insight to both sides of the issue.

From a student perspective, there is a pretty simple explanation to this whole issue: don't post pictures of underage drinking online. There is nothing to gain by doing this other than being noticed by a couple of people on Facebook and looking cool. It's really not worth it. While I understand how students can be upset about getting in trouble for these pictures, just assess the situation before you put these online. There is way too much to risk by having these pictures online. According to an article on nacac.net, there have been students turned away from colleges because of pictures found online. There have also been instances with sports teams when kids have bashed coaches and then been kicked off the team as a result of the coaches finding out what they said. Overall, the situation just really isn't worth risking.

From an administrative perspective, I do not feel that it is right to look online with the intent to bust kids. Although it is public information and there is technically nothing wrong with it, I do not feel like this is a fair way to get kids in trouble. It is also impossible to find every kid who is doing something wrong and in the end, it will be very hard to get these kids in trouble. However, if administrators are informed of these pictures from an outside source, it is pretty hard to ignore the issue.

Overall I feel that it comes down to the responsibility of students. Just be smart. There are no beneficial results from posting these pictures online. While I do feel that these pictures should not be searched for, just eliminate the risk and keep these pictures to yourself.



Blair Kelley Op-Ed Department

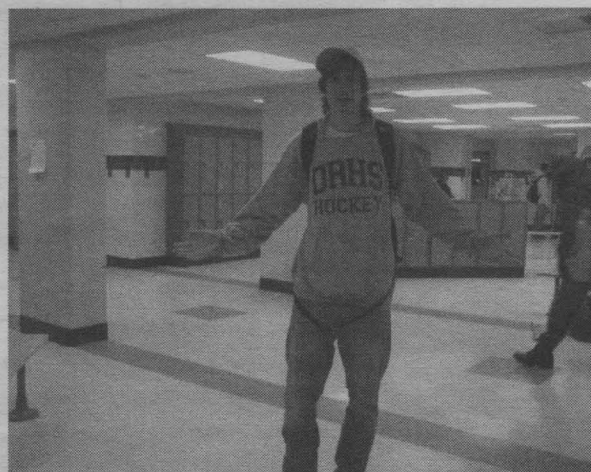
The Rants: Politically Correct

Politically correct. This is a saying that one will hear numerous times throughout their life. What does it mean? Why do people make such a big deal about it? I decided to get to the heart of the issue and find out what this term really means to people. The topic that I really decided to focus on was "gender neutral" terms. Should we spend all of this time changing terms like "mankind" to "human kind" or should we just let it be?

In respect to "gender neutral terms," I have mixed feelings. I really don't feel like all of this time should be put into correcting every term, but there are also people who feel very strongly about this issue. There was one example that personally I did not feel was too big of a problem. Syracuse University was forced to change their name from the Syracuse Orangemen to simply the Syracuse Orange. Why not just call the women team names to the Orangewomen and keep everything the same. Last time I checked, Tennessee University calls their female teams the Lady Volunteers and everyone is happy. I personally don't feel that this is worth making a huge debate over.

Political correctness also reaches other places as well. I feel like people can't say anything without receiving criticism from someone. Everywhere you go there is a "correct" term for just about everything. I feel like people need to just let it go and stop trying to change every term. Obviously there are blatant racist and prejudice terms that shouldn't be used, but I don't see what's wrong with calling "people of mass" fat. These are the terms that people are used to and it's going to be very hard to have people change their ways.

In regards to the whole issue, I think we should just focus on changing the terms that can't be ignored. If Native Americans are upset about the name "Washington Redskins," that is understandable because it can most definitely be perceived as somewhat racist. However, in the whole scheme of things, I think it is too hard to change everything and there are a lot of terms that really aren't worth arguing over.



Blake Janelle in an up roar about the name change



MOR in

That's right readers your very own staff of Mouth of The River took a trip outside of our little middle of nowhere school to go to the big city. New York City that is, we cavorted around town; saw the sights and the lights. Oh, and there was a journalism convention at Columbia University too. We got stuck in the snow and spent 9 hours on a bus but still everyone had fun. Here are some pictures of our crazy adventure.



April 17, 2007 17



The Big Apple



2007 is the only class in the school to have experienced two Diversity Days. For those of you who weren't around yet, Diversity Day in '04 was a full day of workshops and performances, some of which never actually materialized. We all complained at the time, but looking back, some of the workshops were really pretty cool. Remembering the workshops about subjects like cross-dressing and Islam, I was almost looking forward to it this year.

Clearly, Diversity Day this year was different. I thought that showing "Invisible Children" to the whole school was really important; it's an incredibly powerful movie, and more so for those who were just hearing about the issue for the first time.

However, I'm not sure how much it had to do with diversity. I know that when I was (briefly) on the planning committee for the cancelled-by-floods Diversity Day last year, we had some student objections to workshops about sexuality and religion. This, to me, really emphasized the fact that we do need some kind of diversity awareness day in the high school.

Oyster River is an incredibly *not* diverse environment. We live in the third whitest state in the union, according to the U.S. Census Bureau; the first and second whitest states are Maine and Vermont. This definitely shows in the student body at ORHS. So why didn't Diversity Day this year confront more of these issues?

According to senior Jessalyn Hobson and ORHS principal Laura Rogers, the problem was in the planning. The Parent-Teacher Organization typically helps to organize the day's activities, but this year no one stepped up. Diversity Day this year was "everything I could coordinate," says Rogers. Hobson organized the showing of "Invisible Children," while Rogers arranged for the drummers who performed at the end of the day.

Most of the seniors I talked to liked Diversity Day this year better than the one we had as freshmen. However, I feel that we would have benefited from a day that explored more issues of diversity.



The three of us showing off shirts to support Invisible Children

Three Thoughts: Diversity Day

Surprisingly enough this diversity day was actually quite tolerable. Diversity days in the past have been just about the most brutal days one can endure. This one however I didn't mind at all. The Invisible Children movie was very powerful and it made me think a lot about the problems on earth we know nothing about and how we can help out with them. During the freshmen and sophomore year diversity days I would have happily been absent, but I probably had lacrosse later on in the day which forced me to go to school.

This year's movie accompanied by the African dance/music was a very happy medium. There wasn't too much actual school work, and there wasn't too much diversity day. I think it also helped the events were spaced out a bit. This gave the perfect amount of time in which we were able to rest our highly overworked brains.

This diversity day was a lot better because it wasn't an all day event. Yes it's always nice to get out of real classes for a day but when the workshops we are being expected to go to are literally the most uneventful workshops on earth I would almost rather go to class.

"Diversity day was pretty cool," said Freshmen Craig Goddard, The African Dance was sick." Craig, I couldn't have put it better myself. Overall I would grade diversity day a B+ it was a good use of the day and it was quite enjoyable, I'm not going to lie I even did a little African dancing myself.

After weeks of dreading the reality of having to attend Diversity Day, it ended up not being as bad as I initially thought. In the past, Diversity Day has been a full day of boring activities that realistically, the majority of people do not want to do. This year however, the day was much more toned down and everything was consolidated into two pretty interesting demonstrations. The secret was that everything was brief; it kept people from getting restless. I was very impressed with how Diversity Day turned out and I hope for future classes that the school reverts to this formula.

The first activity was the showing of "Invisible Children." This was great because it made everyone in the school aware of a pretty serious situation going on in the world. It was also presented in a pretty interesting manner. The video was very entertaining, not too long and definitely seemed to captivate a good amount of the audience. The only complaint I had about this was the guy who represented the "Invisible Children" group. He seemed nice, but was practically useless in answering any of the questions that students had.

The other activity was the African drumming people. Once again, this was pretty interesting to watch. These were definitely guys who knew what they were doing and seemed pretty authentic (although I did see them in street clothes less than fifteen minutes after the demonstration). The brevity of the African drumming was what made this a fun experience. We were not kept there very long so I don't feel like people had too much time to get sick it. It was also cool how they let people who wanted to dance go down on the gym floor. It was much better than past gymnasium experiences which last three miserable hours. Please don't give us anymore guest speakers talking about drugs and alcohol; I don't think I can handle it.

To reiterate, I was very impressed with Diversity Day. I wasn't stuck with boring guest speakers in stuffy classrooms like I was freshman year. Kids don't want to spend all day going to different workshops; the majority just don't have the attention span. Thank you for a good last Diversity Day for me and I hope they stay this way in the future.

Left Column: Cassie de Alba
Middle Column: Sam Kerrigan
Rigth Column: Blair Kelley



Cassie de Alba Op-Ed Department

Five Bands You Should Be Listening To:

KATE BUSH: If you've ever had Mr. Brewer, you probably know about Kate Bush; but you probably don't appreciate her. You probably snickered through the music video for "Wuthering Heights" and then forgot about the "weird chick with the high-pitched voice." This, on your part, was a tragic mistake.

Kate Bush is a British singer who writes some really great songs. It took me a while to get past the "awesome factor" and actually appreciate her music, but the journey was well worth it. Her songwriting talent, unique voice, and all-around creativity (who else writes a song about an Emily Brontë novel?) definitely make Kate Bush worth listening to. If you need more convincing, just ask Mr. Brewer. "Regardless of the year, regardless of the trends, [she] marches to the beat of her own drum," he says.

"There's only one Kate Bush."

ESPECIALLY AWESOME SONGS: Wuthering Heights, The Dreaming, Eat the Music

THE MOUNTAIN GOATS: The driving force behind the Mountain Goats is one incredibly prolific songwriter: John Darnielle, who's written all of the nearly 500 songs the Mountain Goats have released in the past 15 years. He's best known for the one-man-and-a-guitar lo-fi style he's steered away from in recent years, on albums such as 2006's "Get Lonely." Still intact, however, are the simple melodies and vivid lyrical imagery that have defined the Mountain Goats from the start.

ESPECIALLY AWESOME SONGS: Woke Up New, Going to Georgia, No Children

NEUTRAL MILK HOTEL: The legendary indie band only made two real albums before singer/songwriter/creative genius Jeff Mangum went all recluse on us. But those two albums contain what I consider to be some of the best music ever written. The more critically acclaimed of the two, "In The Aeroplane Over The Sea," is a few rotations away from officially being the soundtrack to my life. It's some of the only music you can both wake up and fall asleep to; the songs are simultaneously calming and invigorating. It doesn't matter what kind of music you're into, because between Neutral Milk Hotel's amazing lyrics, beautiful melodies, and killer horn solos, there's something for everyone.

ESPECIALLY AWESOME SONGS: Song Against Sex, The King of Carrot Flowers Part I, Holland 1945

THE HOLD STEADY: "All their songs are about getting drunk and high," sighs junior James Tarvainen. Yes, but they manage to do it in a way that's interesting and catchy. Despite some one-track lyrics, their songs really never get old. Their 2005 album "Separation Sunday" follows several characters, including ones named Hallelujah and Charlemagne, through a maze of parties, drugs, and resurrections. 2006's follow-up, "Boys and Girls in America," is a take-off on a Jack Kerouac line and features songs about horse racing and hooking up in a "chillout tent" at a music festival ("It was kinda sexy, but it was kinda creepy"). They recently finished up a US tour, and will be playing Bonnaroo in June.

ESPECIALLY AWESOME SONGS: Chillout Tent, How a Resurrection Really Feels, Your Little Hoodrat Friend

PLASTILINA MOSH: This one's for all you Spanish students. Plastilina Mosh, from Monterrey, Mexico, are a mix of alternative rock, rap, and a crazy good time. Just try to resist dancing to songs like "Àlo," with the chorus, "Hola, soy el volumen de tu corazón" (if you don't speak Spanish...start learning). The band's two members come from completely different musical backgrounds (thrash-metal versus classical), and this fusion results in some really fun music. Even if you're in French class, Plastilina Mosh is definitely worth listening to.

ESPECIALLY AWESOME SONGS: Àlo, Niño Bomba, Mr. P Mosh

What bands do you think everyone should be listening to? Email us at morlovesmusic@yahoo.com!



Sam Kerrigan Op-Ed Department

Suave Sam

Q: Sam would you recommend using Nair on my body for hair removal? -Ryan Hubbard: Senior

A: Ry, I've got to tell you, not a good thing to go about doing. I've used it on two such occasions and neither of which were pleasant. Not only am I unaware if it comes back thicker/darker but good god is it uncomfortable.

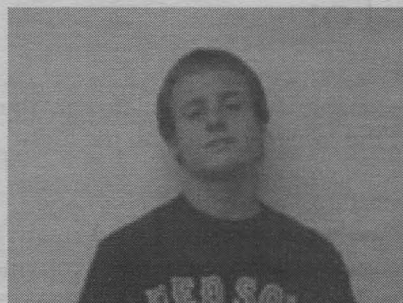
Q: Why does Evan Lonstein spend more time organizing baseball cards than with his best friend/girlfriend? - Melissa Roeder: Junior

A: Melly, truthfully I don't know. As fun as organizing baseball cards is you would think he would rather be with one of us.

In reality I think it just comes down to him being a 6 year old trapped in an 18 year olds body. If the relationship and the baseball cards just becomes too much just let me know, and then I'll date you.

Q: How do I go about getting an upperclassmen to ask me to prom? - Craig Goddard: Freshmen

A: Craig, tough situation you've got yourself in, it is an incredibly rare thing for a freshmen boy to get asked to prom. My advice to you would be go on the offensive, seek out the kids who you think don't have a date yet, and then you ask them to take you to prom. If they are desperate, they will say yes. Also if you want to increase your chances, don't just ask the girls.



Blair Kelley Op-Ed Department

Bathroom Awkwardness: The Collaboration

It's B period when suddenly you get the urge. You ask the teacher to leave class and head to the boys' bathroom down the hall. You set up shop at the urinal and are all ready to go when suddenly another person comes in and stands at the urinal right next to you. You have seen this person before, but he isn't someone you would normally give a "hello" to. You spend the next minute or so just waiting for the experience to finally end. Overall, it's simply a very uncomfortable situation.

Through the course of a boy's life, numerous awkward situations come about, possibly none more embarrassing however than dealing with public bathrooms. The whole ordeal of relieving one's self becomes so much more difficult when in a public setting. First off, there is the whole issue of urinals which causes most of the awkwardness. I also feel that it's strange how a person is thrown into a situation where numerous males are all together doing something that is normally considered private; completely natural, but still private. Basically I feel that the public bathroom can be a very awkward

and uncomfortable place for numerous reasons that before now have not been discussed a lot.

The first, probably most awkward situation that arises in male public bathrooms takes place at the urinals. Is it acceptable to talk to the person next to you or should you keep to yourself? It's a tough question which results in a lot of mixed views. Some people are more open to discussion while others are vehemently opposed to it. Nonetheless, it is a very important question in this issue.

"Either way it's going to be awkward," said Senior Pat Jackson. "It's more awkward to not talk to someone you'd normally talk to just because you're peeing."

While this is an understandable point, there are still people who disagree.

"I think people should have a space in between urinals and there should never be any eye contact," stated Junior Thayer Harris.

After seeking wisdom from my peers, I realized that the situation is much more complex than I initially thought. On one hand, I see that it may be hard to generate conversation while relieving yourself right next to someone. On the other hand, not talking can result in awkward eye contact, which absolutely nobody wants to deal with. I came to the conclusion that there should be some guidelines set to how this urinal situation can be made better.

First off, you do not have to talk to everyone you are standing next to. It would be nice to think that a simple "how are you?" can rid the room of any awkwardness, but this is simply not the case. If you find yourself next to someone you don't know too well, just ignore them and focus on yourself. On the opposite side of the spectrum, if someone you know shows up next to you, it is perfectly fine to talk to them. You could possibly even make a joke to help relieve some tension. This could also severely reduce the risk of "stage fright" as I like to call it. As for a teacher showing up next to you, let's just hope that it's one you are acquainted with because that situation can become awkward fast.

If I had to give one piece of advice, it would be that the person entering the bathroom should leave some separation between the urinals, especially if there are no dividers. People need their space in the bathroom and that should be respected. Never take the urinal right next to someone unless there is no other option. There's no denying it, this situation is awkward, but I truly believe the situation can be at least bettered. Just try to follow these guidelines, I guarantee your situation won't be as miserable as it can be sometimes.



A perfect example of a little bathroom awkwardness



Sam Kerrigan Op-Ed Department

You walk into the bathroom set up at the urinal and everything seems normal, then to your disgust someone in the stall next to you starts letting it rip. Now don't pretend this doesn't apply to you because chances are, it does. And almost everyone has been involved in one of these rather awkward bathroom experiences.

There are a lot of different awkward experiences one can have while in a public bathroom some of them can't be avoided but then again there are some that just a little patience can fix. There's the classic "stage fright" which is commonly seen at urinals with no walls or in a crowded bathroom. Then there is always the inconsiderate person you walk in on who's loudly doing their business in one of the stalls, and of course when you're in the opposite situation; trying to do your business in peace only to be interrupted by someone barging into the bathroom. "When you're doing your business you like to be in privacy, you need to focus, and that is important to me," said Leigh Avery an Aide at ORHS.

Leigh you're absolutely right. Although many people may look past it this is an important time in someone's day, no one wants to have a bad experience because this time is potentially the most private occurrences one can take part in. "It's kind of awkward when someone walks in on you especially a teacher, I don't know if I should say hi or just ignore it," Ty Guarino. I must agree I'd say that's awkward too and if that were too happen I might just give a little head nod or a hello, depending on how well I knew the teacher.

Using a rest room in extremely populated area such as a mall or airport it is a totally different story. Obviously you're not going to be able to avoid the crowds, but none the less you can still be courteous. If someone is at the urinal doing their business, be polite and don't go to the one right next to him. I am however basing my arguments on public bathrooms such as a school.

Bathroom Awkwardness continued...

Now the cleanliness of public bathrooms also poses a large problem to many people. "I have no problem using a public bathroom as long as it's not nasty," said Senior Craig Mason. A lot of people really don't enjoy sitting down on the toilets. The thought of a lot of other people's bare bottoms on them just grosses them out. There are various ways to get around this however. As seen in American Pie you can pad the seat with toilet paper so you aren't actually touching the seat. Another way to get around the seats is mentioned by Sophomore Jill Friel, "If the bathroom is really that bad and smells you can always squat." The one problem with that is just only how long are you willing to squat?

There are a few acceptations to these awkward situations. One of them being, if you're in the bathroom with a good friend I don't think there is anything awkward about that at all, it can actually almost be fun.

So what I'm trying to say by writing this is that everyone should just be a little more considerate while in a public bathroom. Think of others while doing your business, if someone's in there before you doing their business, just wait a minute, let them have their peace and then you can have yours. That way everyone can be happy.

Bathroom Don'ts

1. looking over stall
2. staring at the urinal
3. leaving a present in the toilet
4. Jiggling an occupied stall door
5. Making loud noises.



Sam Kerrigan Op-Ed Department

Same Gendered Touching: Acceptable or Not?

It started with a little hug my good friend Evan and I were sharing in the hallway, when someone walking by yelled, "get a room!" I felt upset by this and then I started to wonder what exactly was acceptable in the eyes of people in regards to touching same gendered friends, and why is it not a two way street?

In my opinion acceptable touching for the (most part) between two males should be seen as the same as two females. I'm not giving the ok to go around kissing one another—I personally don't think this will ever be 'socially acceptable' in the United States— but a little affection should be a perfectly fine thing

to do. Chuck Rhoades, a professor at UNH, has done some research on the issue. "I think that boys and men are taught to restrict their touch at an early age. It starts when parents tell their sons to 'shake hands' instead of giving them a good-night hug and kiss."

From what I have observed girls can literally get away with anything (from hugs, kisses, to even making out with each other), and they are not considered at all, for lack of a better word, homosexual. Males can hardly get away with a little butt tap without being ridiculed by the greater percent of the student body.

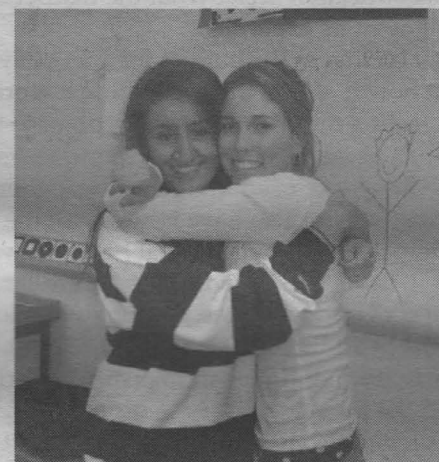
So why exactly is this? If I want to give my bud a hug or a little butt slap I should be able to do this without being called gay. Not that there's anything wrong with that, I would just prefer not to be called such things.

And so began my adventure to get to the bottom of this. "I think it's because of how society makes it," says Lauren Anderson. "Girls can do pretty much anything, and I don't think it's a big deal when guys touch each other. It definitely does depend on who it is, but most of the time they are joking."

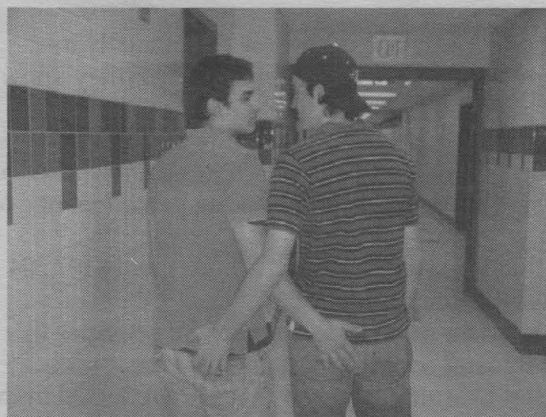
I then began to wonder if this was a generations issue and what some of my teachers thought. "It doesn't matter to me, I'm fine with it guys can just seem awkward towards each other though," says Heather Healy an ORHS economics teacher on the topic of boys hugging and touching. "Girls can get away with kissing because they are trying to be shocking; boys are also a lot more homophobic." I agree with this, boys/men are much more homophobic than females that's because we make being "gay" into a much bigger issue than it needs to be.

Butt slapping during athletic events brings up another very important side to this. Why is it more acceptable during these circumstances? Healy stated, "I don't get the whole butt slapping thing in sports." I find it a little odd that butt slapping is perfectly acceptable in games and not in the real world, this is why I got the help of an expert. "Athletes get more touch freedom during games (not afterward) since they are "proving their manhood" on the gridiron or hardwood," says Rhoades. I must say I can't argue with this point, the two different extremes (the adrenaline rush of a sport and showing a little affection) seem to balance each other out.

I decided summarize my findings by talking to possibly the most outspoken person on this issue. His name is Ryan Hubbard. Ryan is known for his affection towards friends of the same gender and he really thinks nothing of it. "It means absolutely nothing unless it's sexual; it's been a totally normal thing ever since cavemen. It isn't anything until you develop feelings for the one you're touching." And I'd say that just about sums it up, boys, just don't go developing any feelings for the friend your touching and... you'll be good to go.



Emily Murphy and Sarah Grant openly showing their loving friendship towards each other



Two boys (who are just friends) sharing an affectionate, yet acceptable moment



Cassi deAlba Op-Ed Department

The ORHS Budget: How Does It Affect You?

I assumed that writing an article about the high school budget would be simple. Get some statistics, talk about how academics are under-funded, maybe include a graph.

Was I ever wrong. After talking to various teachers, students, administrators, and department heads, the only conclusion I've come to is that no one really knows how our budget works: including me.

Apparently, this year's budget was arranged by last year's interim superintendent, who decided to assign flat dollar amounts to every student in the district. According to Blaine Cox, the district's business administrator, these include \$25 for textbooks and \$2 for first aid supplies. The budget had never been calculated like this before, and the budget for next year does not include the across-the-board dollar amounts. However, for the current school year, the budget is down over \$300,000.

I couldn't find anyone in the high school who thought this was a good idea. Principal Laura Rogers classified it as "a short-sighted way to create a budget," while art teacher Tim Lawrence fumed that "a third-grader doesn't need the same resources as a twelfth-grader needs." He went on to add that, with this year's budget, "We all got screwed big-time. We're going to be hurting for years."

However, in a phone interview, Mast Way principal David Michaud told me that this was *not* how the budget for this year was calculated. According to Michaud, different amounts were assigned to students from each division: "no different than it's ever been."

So what is actually going on? It's hard to look at the actual budget for answers; for one thing, the copy I have doesn't have labeled columns, and various teachers and administrators gave me conflicting information on which one was which. Once I finally sorted out how to *read* the budget, there was still the fact that the budget items are less than clear. There are multiple rows labeled with the same name, some of them with \$0.00 across all the columns. And the listed figures for special education aren't what the district ends up paying; according to Amy Therrian, the special education coordinator, the government reimburses the program for many of its expenses.

After staring at the budget for a few days, weeping softly, I decided to talk to people about how it affects them, not how it works. Many students in the high school have been feeling the crunch when it comes to class supplies. "We can't cook certain things in Foods because they're too expensive," says senior Mark Pavlidis. "We can't do a lot of the things we used to do in shop, either," adds Ryan Vaillancourt.

Some teachers also have issues with the current budget. Although social studies teacher Alex Herlihy says that he has "always felt very supported here financially," his push to have Russian added as a third language at ORHS has continually failed because of budget issues. Although he's located a federal grant that would pay for half the cost of adding Russian (about \$5,000), and student surveys show that there is "clearly enough [interest] to justify" offering the class, the district has been unwilling to spend the money.

Lawrence also has mixed feelings about his department's budget. The art budget has been cut by almost \$10,000 from last year. Without this funding, he's unable to offer projects like welding, and fears he may no longer be able to give materials to students not currently enrolled in art classes. However, his philosophy is, "We'll make it work with what we have. We could do this in a tent if we had to." He also believes that "a diminished budget makes you a little more clever" in how you use the available resources.

Don Maynard, the high school athletic director, also sees the bright side of a small budget, although the athletics budget was one of the few that actually increased from the 05-06 school year. "I don't want an open checkbook," he said, explaining that players are more likely to take care of equipment when they know it won't be easily replaced.

So does a school's budget affect students' ability to learn? Principal Rogers believes that since the budget greatly affects a school's ability to hire teachers and purchase equipment, it definitely does. She also told me that Oyster River spends more on teachers' salaries and computers than the other schools she's worked at. According to the New Hampshire Department of Education, ORHS pays its teachers almost \$10,000 more than the state's average salary, making personnel one of the district's biggest expenses.

So what else does the ORCSD spend money on? Aside from special education, the biggest item on the budget is athletics, which the high school spent \$107,304 on this year. Maynard blames this on the increase in fuel prices, adding that the district has been "very fair" in the way it funds athletics.

Personally, I don't think there's anything "fair" in spending that much on athletics while refusing to spend \$5,000 to add a new class. After school activities like sports are obviously an important part of any high school experience, but the district only spent \$18,450 on non-sports after school programs this year.

And call me crazy, but the most important part of any high school experience is, uh, going to school. Y'know, classes. Learning. Too bad that's not reflected in the budget.

**"We all got screwed big-time. We're going to be hurting for years."
- Tim Lawrence**

Wanted: Members for ORHS tree planting club who are able to donate their time and shovels to plant trees in our community! Talk to Aillinn Connors for more info.

April 17th, 2007 23



Athletes of the Month

Scholar Athletes



Name/Nicknames: Michael Sack, Sack, Sack Attack, Sackalicious

DOB: September 29, 1989

5 words to describe you: outgoing, confident, huge, fun, smart

Sport: Basketball

Sports Hero: John Elway

Best Sports Memory: When our basketball team beat Coe-Brown by 20 points at Coe-Brown.

Most Embarrassing Sports Memory: When I fouled out of a basketball game after only playing a little bit.

Favorite Sports Movie: Remember the Titans

Sports Superstitions: Same routine every game; putting on the right shoe and then the left.

Animal you think represents you on the field: Vulture

How much can you bench: Not enough

Name/Nicknames: Catherine Clough

DOB: May 2, 1989

5 words to describe you: determined, easily-amused, silly, tall, sarcastic

Sport: Basketball

Sports Hero: Kerri Walsh

Best Sports Memory: Our team (volleyball) played in our match this year. We came together and played the best volleyball we played all season.

Most Embarrassing Sports Memory: I can't remember any, but I'm sure my teammates could think of some.

Favorite Sports Movie: Remember the Titans

Sports Superstitions: I have to lace my ankle braces the same way everytime.

Animal you think represents you on the field: Clydesdale horse

How much can you bench: 2007 oz.

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The Rise of Lacrosse and the MLL



Joe Gehling Sports Writer

The students rose with an unseen fervor. The Oyster River Boy's lacrosse team had just scored the tying goal with five seconds to go in the fourth quarter of the Division II State Championship to cap a seven goal comeback. "That was the greatest sports moment that I have ever witnessed," exclaimed Senior fan Evan Lonstein.

Lacrosse has quickly become the nation's fastest growing sport, and not surprisingly so. The sport of lacrosse has all of the attributes that Americans love so much in other sports. The game is very fast paced, incredibly physical, and very flashy. It can be high scoring or dominated by defense from one game to the next. According to USA Lacrosse, lacrosse has grown faster this past decade than any sport before it in our country.

Major League Lacrosse, the MLL, has also made significant gains since its creation in June of 2001. The original six teams were the Boston Cannons, Long Island Lizards, New Jersey Pride, Philadelphia Barrage, Rochester Rattlers, and the Washington Bayhawks. And just five years later, in the summer of 2006, four more teams were added, all of which were out West (San Francisco, Denver, Chicago, and Los Angeles). In 2008, the MLL will expand to another two cities as well. ESPN2 airs the MLL game of the week, showing 10 games every season, as well as the All-Star Game, and the Championship Game. "Lacrosse can be so high scoring, and it is very intense and exciting," said Senior Kegan Quimby. Junior Ariel Wachowiak agrees, saying, "It's such a fun and interesting sport to watch, there is so much hitting."

As much as the MLL has transformed, it does not begin to show how this sport has really taken hold in this country.



A sophomore PE class playing lacrosse.



**major league
lacrosse**

Photo courtesy of AAFLA.org

College lacrosse has really become immensely popular. During the NCAA tournament in 2005, the final four was held in Philadelphia, and 44,920 fans passed through the gates to watch the semi-finals and the championship game. Johns Hopkins beat Duke 9-8 in a very intense game to win the program's eighth national title. In 2006, a new record, 47,062 fans were on hand to watch Virginia beat the University of Massachusetts 15-7 in the title game.

According to USA Lacrosse, between 1999 and 2005 the number of youth lacrosse players in the country tripled. Lacrosse has been spreading across the country in the past few years. It has always been played in the Northeast at colleges such as Johns Hopkins, Princeton, Syracuse, and Maryland, but it is gaining ground out West every year.

The sport is continuing to grow in New Hampshire as well. Seacoast United, which is a premier soccer and field hockey organization first and foremost, has started to offer its indoor and turf facilities for lacrosse use in the winter and spring. "I love being able to play in the indoor facilities at Hampton. It gives me a way to continue getting repetition in throughout the winter, when I normally would not be able to play lacrosse," said senior lacrosse goalie, Chris Bahl.

Annoying Equipment That You Can't Get Rid Of



Emily Sievert Sports Writer

"I hate wearing the goggles! Not only do they mess up your depth perception, but they make your face sweat," complains senior Sara Powell about the lacrosse goggles that girls are now required to wear.

Most student athletes know that uniforms and equipment are specific to each sport, but that doesn't mean that all equipment is liked. A lot of high school sports players hate mouth guards or lacrosse goggles, but now are just used to them being part of their sport. This raises the question of whether equipment like pads, helmets, goggles, skirts etc. make sports harder or more frustrating, or is it all just part of the game?

However annoying girls lacrosse goggles may be, they only pertain to a small percentage of student athletes. An overwhelming majority of sports players complained about how annoying the mouth guard is.

"I don't know about anyone else, but I actually like to breathe when I play a sport. Mouth guards get in the way of that and talking," stated junior Alec Schidlovsky. Other students agree with Schidlovsky, and wonder why they are even used in the first place.

"I have never been hit in the face. It just doesn't happen that much," stated freshman sports player, Elise Contas. Yet, mouth guards have been required for a while now in the world of high school sports and according to Athletic Director Don Maynard, they are required for a good reason.

"Mouth guards are definitely annoying, but they have been required for 5 or 6 years now and should have been even before that. Being an

athlete, I have seen too many mouth and head injuries that could have been prevented if mouth guards had been worn," stated Maynard.

Other equipment that has been noted as being annoying includes many of the pads that are worn in hockey and boys' lacrosse. These two sports are known as contact sports because of their aggressive and fast paced style of play. Some may make the argument that pads

Most annoying piece of equipment in any sport:

Mouth guard: 47%
Elbow pads: 18%
Cup: 15%
Speedo: 12%
Goggles: 8%

need to be worn in these sports.

"I think boys' lacrosse needs *more* pads! I have seen a guy get his femur shattered in half by a hard stick check from an opposing player! It's crazy!" stated senior Megan Sievert, referring to the bad injuries you can receive on unprotected areas of the body. Others may disagree.

"Pads are definitely useful in our sport, but some of them are just so annoying! My elbow pads slide everywhere and are by far the worst smelling of my pads," senior Blair Kelley adds about boys' lacrosse.

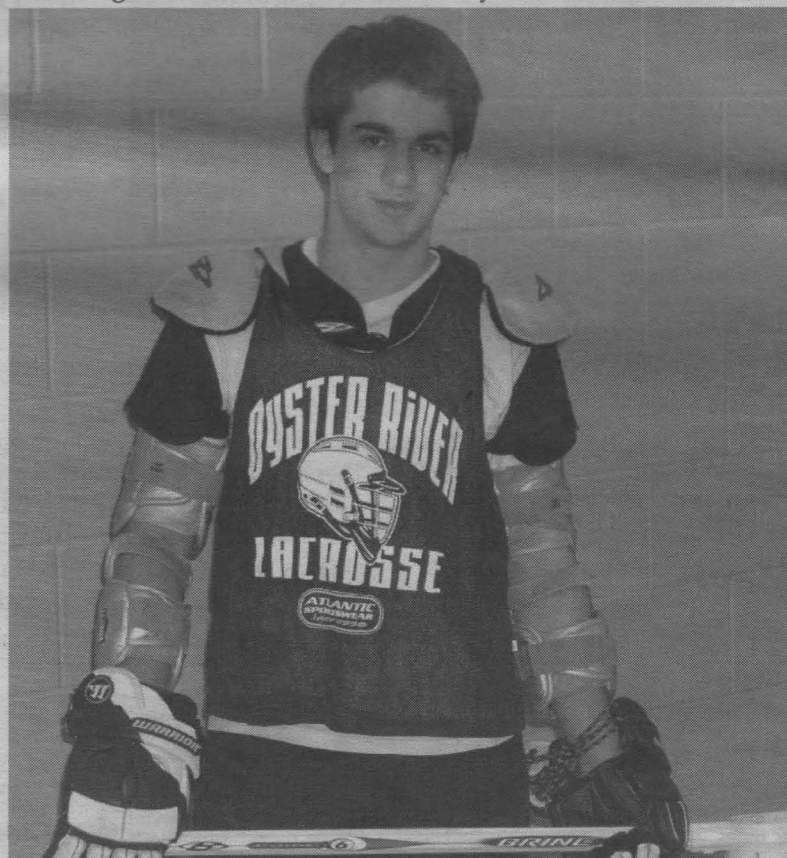
For sports like boys lacrosse the equipment can definitely be annoying, but it is basically known that is needed. Other sports are not only

worried about equipment, but also how uniforms make them feel.

"The short shorts that we have to wear in track are awkward to say the least, but I like them because they are so thin and short that I can't feel them when I run, so it's just one less thing weighing me down," said Senior Matt Talley. "Most of the other guys probably won't agree though."

Sarah Crothers, a junior student athlete, agrees that equipment is there for a reason. "It's not like I wouldn't play girls lacrosse if for some reason the goggles got downgraded to helmets. The goggles are annoying, but if I ever get hit in the face, I know I will be glad I am wearing them."

Overall, annoying equipment is something that is just part of the game. Whether or not it makes you sweat a little bit



Sophomore lacrosse player David Wilson models the padding worn in men's lacrosse.

Spring Sports Preview



Joe Gehling Sports Writer

Spring time at Oyster River means rain, mud, and the return of outdoor sports. "I am so pumped for winter to be over, and not just because of the weather. Spring is the best time of the year for sports," said Junior baseball player, Ryan Pekins. The fields that haven't been used since the fall are once again packed with high school athletes. The lacrosse programs are looking to repeat last year's success, while baseball, softball, track and field, and tennis, try and improve from last spring. Here are the outlooks for the last season for the Class of 2007:

Baseball

Last Season's record: 7-10

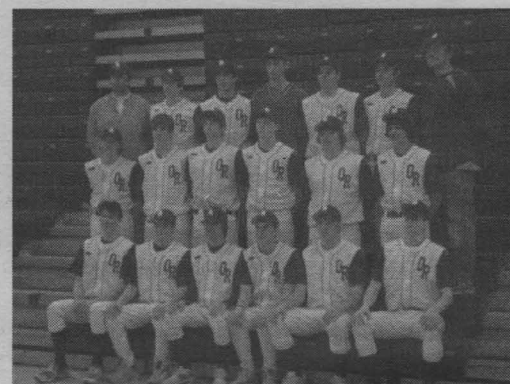
The baseball team has a strong outlook for this coming spring season. Although they have struggled in previous years, this year's team looks as if it could make a turn around since it only graduated a couple of good players. Key players such as Robbie Daigle (Sophomore), Evan Lonstein (Senior), and Chris MacArthur (Senior) are returning. Senior Kegan Quimby says, "I feel great about this team. We should be able to make it pretty far into the playoffs."



Softball

Last Season's record: 1-16

The Oyster River softball program can only improve on last year's season, and they feel that they can do just that. This team will win more with their hitting and defense, and should be better than they were last spring. They lost two good players to graduation, and some others chose not to go out for the team this year, but the team is still confident that it will improve on last year's performance. Senior Liz Rollins says, "I am very excited to play this year. We have a lot of good players, and I think we can definitely win more than one game."



Boys' Track and Field

Last Season's record: 8th Place in Class I

If the cross-country and indoor track results are any indication of how well this track and field team will do, then this has the makings of a very successful season. The cross-country team finished second in Class I and the indoor track team won the Class I state championship. Eyob Euyalem and Ricky Hoyt will anchor this team, with Corey Lewis and Connor McKenna playing key roles as well. Nick Riccardi, the coach of the team, said, "We have the team and the kids to win another state championship this season."



Girls' Tennis

The Girls' tennis team will be led by four seniors this spring. Kelsey Cross, Cecilia Low-Weiner, Vicky Stafford, and Abby Warren will try and improve on last year's finish. Sophomore Jill Friel feels very confident about this year's team. "We were very good last year, and we did not lose anyone from our top four spots, so we should be even better this year," Friel said.



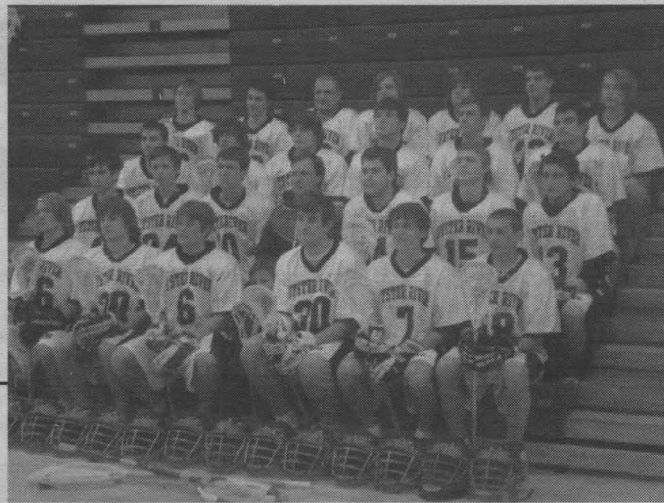
Spring Sports Preview

Continued from previous page.

Boys' Lacrosse

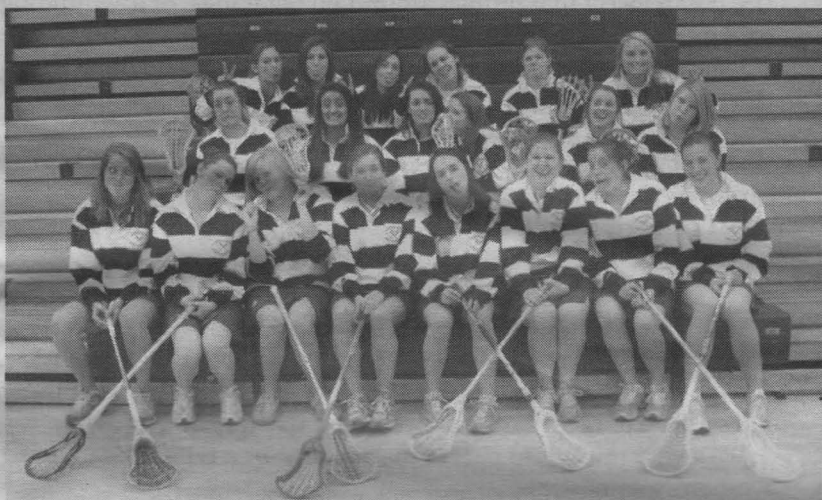
Last Season's record: 9-5

The Boys' lacrosse team has very high expectations headed into this season. Last year they lost in double-overtime to St. Thomas after an amazing seven goal comeback, and this year they have even more desire to win. During pre-season scrimmages against Westford Academy and Peabody (two Massachusetts high school teams) the team looked very strong and showed a great combination of offense and defense. "I expect to win a state championship," says Senior Pat Jackson.



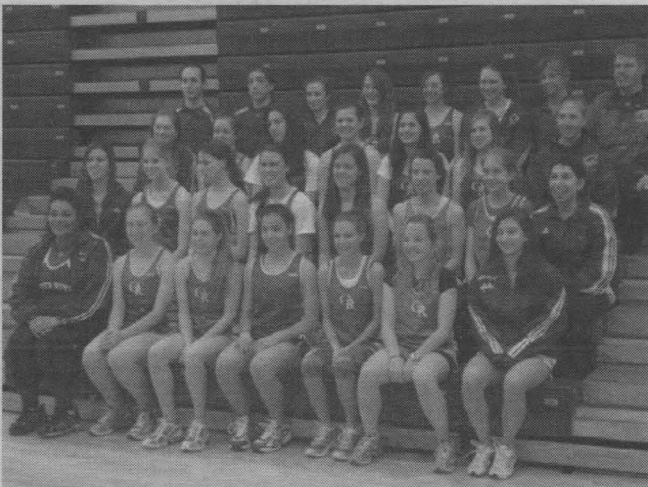
Girls' Lacrosse

Even though many people do not understand the game of girls' lacrosse, they are a very talented team. This year's girl's lacrosse team has high hopes for their season. They will be winning games with their exciting, high powered offense, and they feel that they have the potential to repeat as semi-finalists. Junior Sarah Crothers says, "Although we lost a couple very important seniors from last year, a lot of other players will step it up. Our team is really close, and this is going to be a very fun season."



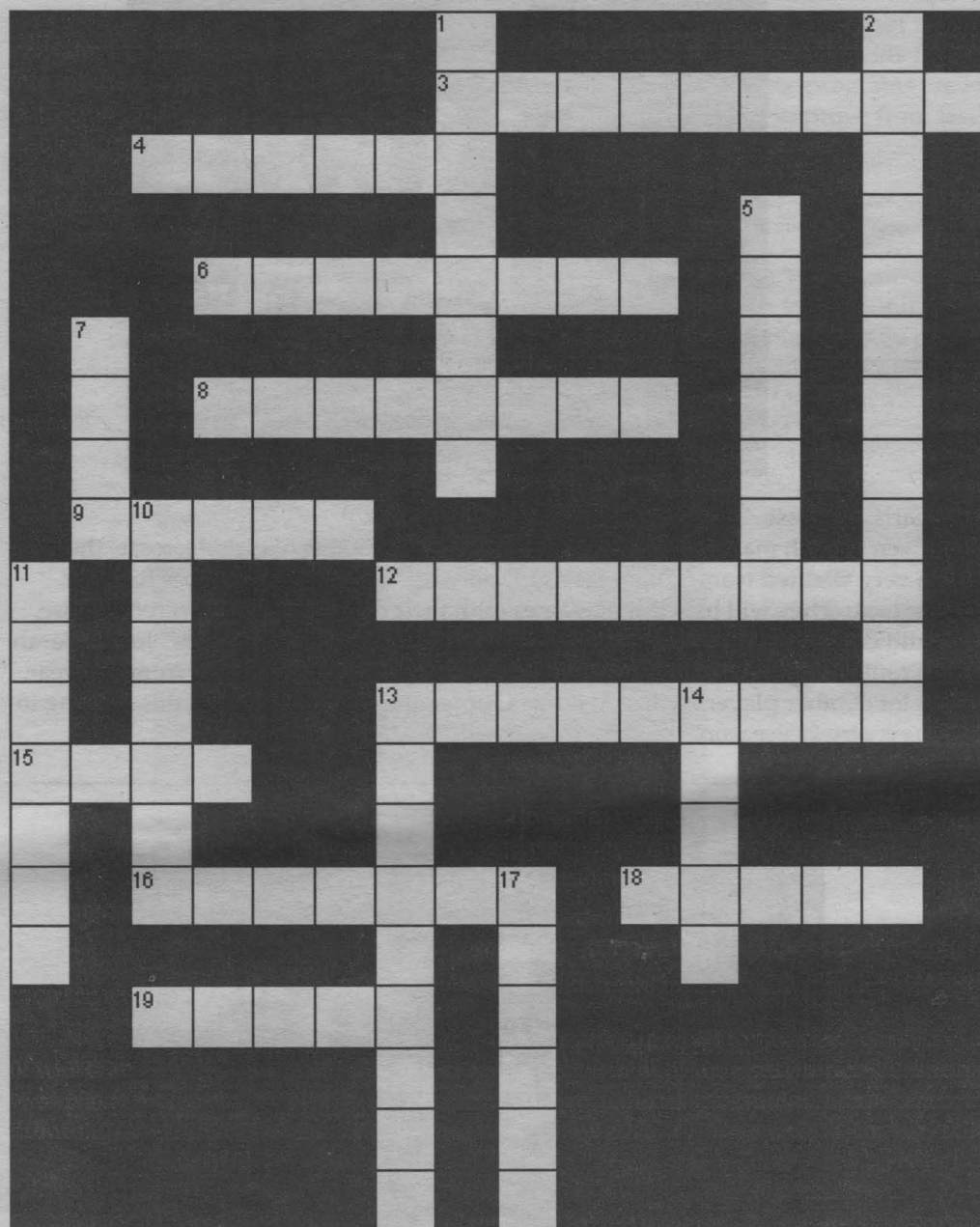
Boys' Tennis

The Boys' tennis team has a lot of shoes to fill this year, but they still will be very competitive. They lost five of their top six players to graduation, but the team is loaded with freshman, so there is great potential for this season. The Boys' are simply looking to grab a playoff spot, then see where it goes from there. Senior leader Trent Faltin says, "For us to win, we are going to have to win on both the top and the bottom of the ladder, so everyone is going to have to play well. It will be fun to watch the younger guys mature as they play though."



Girls' Track and Field

The Girls' Track and Field team will be lead by a pair of twin distance runners, Rachel and Lindsay Rines. This year's team is very solid when it comes to the long-distance races, but it needs a few more exceptional sprinters to really contend for the Class I state title. The top sprinters are Sophomore Lana Ciali and Freshman Hannah Allen. Lindsay Rines says, "I love running as a part of this team. We are really close, and this is a great group of girls. I have a lot of optimism for this upcoming season."



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Across

3. At poolside, this person usually has the tallest chair.
4. A martial arts teacher is often called a master or a _____.
6. It's a race that's just over 26 miles long, named after a city near Athens.
8. Someone you box with during training fights is called your _____.
9. Tae Kwon Doe began in this Asian country.
12. You earn one of these when you reach the highest level of Karate. (2 words)
13. It's an insect that flutters around on big wings, or a swimming stoke.
15. Parents let little kids sit in them but swimmers do them in the pool.
16. If you loose your way while hiking, this magnetic instrument can help you figure out your direction.
18. To stay hydrated while running or playing sports, you have to drink plenty of this.
19. It's a drink served at parties or something a boxer throws.

Down

1. Wear good socks under your hiking boots to avoid getting these.
2. It's a type of race that's run over open territory. (2 words)
5. It's a very important part of martial arts, or a type of beam used in woman's gymnastics.
7. It's a bird with webbed feet, or what you might do if a boxer throws a punch at you.
10. If you train hard enough at your favorite sports, you could compete at the _____ games.
11. It's a city in Colorado or a big rock that you can climb.
13. Yoga Postures involve stretching, balancing, meditation and _____.
14. It's a running or swimming race where teammates go one after the other.
17. It's a long distance phone company or a short distance footrace.

Answers on Page 31.

Unscramble!:

Un-scramble the following ORHS athletes names. Hint: All athletes have been athletes of the issue before.

- 1) RVOTER YARDNMA _____
- 2) AGIRC DAALRNL _____
- 3) SESJ ONBETI _____
- 4) CAEHRL SINER _____
- 5) LIBRA LELYEK _____

- 6) ALIITNK RAKLC _____
- 7) AANL AILIC _____
- 8) BYEO AEULMEY _____
- 9) MLIYE SASNIKIJ _____

The Best Outdoor Games



Emily Sievert Sports Writer

Springtime is here and the excitement can be felt through the halls of Oyster River. Lacrosse sticks litter the gym locker rooms and baseball gloves can be found stuffed in lockers because spring is here. Minus the discouraging affect of this years April snowstorms; outside has been the place to be. People can be seen playing Frisbee in the streets of the UNH campus, or kicking a soccer ball around on Bremner Field and it's about time. Spring is one of the better times in New England to enjoy the weather and what better way to do that than play. Below is a list of the best outdoor games to play, so everyone get out in the sun and enjoy!

Best sport to watch:

Lacrosse- 58%

Baseball/softball- 26%

Tennis- 14%

Frisbee Golf-

Directions: Requires at least one player, but the more the better. Each player should have a Frisbee. This game is played just like golf. Players designate "holes" or objects that need to be hit by the Frisbee in order to move onto the next hole. Players take turns throwing their Frisbee until they hit the "hole." Once all players have hit a certain "hole" the players move onto the next one. Game can be played with 9 or 18 holes.

Best Playing Fields: The UNH Campus.

"The emergency poles make the best holes," -Junior Neal Lofgren

"You just have to make sure that you are around a lot of things to use as 'holes' or it's going to be extremely easy and probably not as fun," - Junior Leslie Claridge

Skills Required: Need to know how to throw a Frisbee. Also should have decent aim.

Hate it or Love it?: "I love Frisbee Golf! You can play it anywhere and you never get bored with those types of games." -Cara Sherry, Junior

Bocce Ball-

Directions: Unfortunately, this game is the most fun when you own a Bocce Ball set. (Wal-Mart, \$25.00) Each set contains balls a little bit bigger than lacrosse balls that are at least two different colors (maybe more). Then there is one small ball known as the "Pallino." To start the game, the Pallino is thrown out in front of the players as far as it can be thrown or rolled. This creates the "Playing Field." The player who threw the Pallino then throws his/her first Bocce Ball as close as they can to the Pallino. Each player then takes turns throwing their Bocce balls towards the Pallino. When each player has thrown all of their Bocce balls, the round is over and the closest ball to the Pallino is the winner.

Best Playing Fields: There are actually fields that have a regulation size for when Bocce Ball tournaments take place. Other than that, the beach is a great place to play or your yard.

Skills Required: Good aim will help you win, and also a fair amount of muscle to get a good throw of the Bocce Balls.

Hate it or Love it?: "I love Bocce! I have never tried it on the beach but I know that it's pretty fun on grass!" -Tess Miliken, Junior

"I love bocce ball because it's so much fun to play at the beach, even though I stink at it." -Lily Burtis.



Photo courtesy of croquet.com.



Photo courtesy of utrecsports.org.

Pick-up Football-

Directions: Pick-Up Football is essentially the same thing as regular football but pads are not required and teams are as small or as big as needed. Rules can be regulated by players and the fields are normally not 100 yards long.

Best Playing Fields: Any big, grassy area that won't hurt to get tackled on. The beach is also a good, wide-open spot but the sand might be challenging to run on.

Skills Required: Need to know something about the game of football and preferably know how to catch and throw. Being in shape is a plus for this activity.

Hate it or Love it?: "Pick-up is great because most guys love football but here at Oyster River, we don't have a team." -Senior, Joe Gehling

The Best Outdoor Games

Continued from page 29.

500-

Directions: 500 is played with a football (or any other type of sports ball that is easy to catch) and a larger group of people. One person is chosen to be the "thrower" to start the game. The other players then line up or group together a fair distance away from the thrower to wait to catch the ball. The thrower throws the ball up into the air towards the other players and calls out a number between 1 and 500. Numbers are typically called in multiples of 50. (e.g. 50, 100, 350 etc.) The player that catches the ball is awarded the amount of points that are called out by the thrower. For example, if the thrower calls out "100!", the player that caught it would now have 100 points. If the ball is not caught it is thrown again with no points awarded. The first player to catch enough throws to get to 500+, becomes the new thrower, or is just named the winner.

Best Playing Fields: Any open area or field. Prescott Park is a summer favorite minus the drive.

Skills Required: You are definitely at a disadvantage if you are not the best catcher around. It is also good to be competitive since the ball is being thrown at a group of people and not just right at you.

Hate it or Love it?: "500 is one of the best games going. I do have some battle scars from it though, it can get rough." -Junior, Dragos Maftai



Photo courtesy of forums.dpreview.com.

Paddle Ball-

Directions: This game is easy and affordable. Kits are sold almost every summer season and only include two wooden or plastic paddles and a small rubber ball. (Easy to pack for that day at the beach.) This game can be played with 2-6 people, but the smaller amount is usually the most fun. You break into teams of two or three if there are a lot of you, or just play against one other person. You play against your opponent in a drawn out grid, similar to a tennis court. The ball is served from one player to the other and must cross the center line. The ball can bounce once and then be hit back or be hit back before a bounce. The ball must stay in bounds. A point is given to the opposite of the one who hit the ball out or missed the ball completely. Played to 21 most of the time.

-Modified version: No grid, just you and a partner trying to hit the ball back and forth as many times as you can without it touching the ground.

Best Playing Fields: It is easy to draw a small grid at the beach, but must be played on the hard, packed sand. Modified version can be played anywhere.

Skills Required: Hand-eye coordination helps in this game, and good aim also gives are a better chance of winning.

Hate it or Love it?: "I love paddle ball! I could play it forever when I'm at the beach in the summer. The only bummer about it is that the little rubber ball is so easy to lose." -Senior, Megan Sievert

Favorite thing to do in the spring months:

Lacrosse: 28%
Swimming: 18%
Long boarding: 15%
Skiing: 8%
Puddle jumping: 7%
Hiking: 5%
Plant Flowers: 5%
Tennis: 5%
Soccer: 5%
Biking: 3%

Kickball-

Directions: Kickball is played based on the rules of baseball but the bats are thrown out and replaced by feet. A medium-sized rubber ball is needed and two teams are required. To begin the game, the pitcher rolls the ball to the kicking team. The person who is kicking, kicks the ball as hard or as soft as wanted and then tries to run around the bases to home. This process is repeated for a designated amount of innings or until one team has a specified amount of points, or players get bored.

Best Playing Fields: Having a baseball or softball field definitely makes the whole thing a lot easier and more fun, but a big yard or an open park would work.

Skills Required: "Foot-Eye" coordination is a must in this game, but you are allowed three strikes when you are up at bat.

Hate it or Love it?: "I wish the kickball unit was longer in gym! I love kickball and I am actually pretty good at it!" -Sophomore, Karissa Layden.

Best temperature to play games in:

50- 13%
60- 66%
70- 22%
80+ 0%

F.O.R.T Loses its Friends



Emily Sievert Sports Writer

For those of you who don't know, the Oyster River Cooperative School District and F.O.R.T have been trying to raise money and support to improve the field situation behind the high school. Most of you have probably heard that this new field would not be grass, but the artificial material found on UNH's Bremner Field. The final design of the new field included a track around the perimeter of the turf field. This new field costs an estimated \$2.5 million dollars and will take a long time to construct. Recently, the project was brought in front of the school district and the bill was voted on. The results were 1,160 "yes's" to 1,508 "no's," so the bill was not passed. The field needed a 3/5 vote to pass and it was not enough.

"It's disappointing because so many people around here have been trying to educate voters about this process. Now that it got voted against, it's going to be a whole other year before construction can begin if it gets voted for next year," stated Matt Pappas, a teacher here at the high school who was all for the construction of the new field.

Pappas thinks that the fields did not pass because of the "high cost" and a "lack of communication."

"F.O.R.T and people who want these fields, need to try harder to get the information out there," Pappas stated. F.O.R.T has reportedly raised hundreds of thousands of dollars, but does not measure up to the \$2.5 million that is needed.

"What most of the voters don't know is that, the state would help pay the cost of construction. It's called mutual aid and the state would have probably picked up half a million dollars of the total cost. It's really just disappointing," Pappas continued.

Overall, more information needs to be presented to the community's voters in order for the field to see progression. If ORHS athletes want to stop playing on wet muddy fields, they need to take action! Help spread the word to parents and neighbors so that ORHS can achieve a needed and long awaited field upgrade and get the track that F.O.R.T has been waiting to build for so long.

Student Reactions:

"It's the stupid people in our town who don't have kids and don't see how squished we are during outdoor sports who voted against it. It would be so much easier to schedule soccer practices if we had more field space." -Mike Erlenbach, Junior

"I'm so pissed! I would love my senior year soccer season to be on turf! It would not only get rid of the mud problem but it would get the soccer teams ready for Stellos." -Tess Miliken, Junior

"I don't know how I feel about it. It would definitely have its advantages but I'm all for playing on grass." -Ty Guarino, Junior

"I'm glad it got voted against! It saves so much money and we have UNH fields to play on." -Thayer Harris, Junior

"As a senior, it doesn't really matter to me that much but I do think its stupid how strict and stubborn our town is with their tax money. It's a worthwhile thing to spend it on I think. Our town knows that we are a great school district, and we deserve top of the line fields too. Especially since other area schools are now getting them." -Pat Jackson, Senior

Eyob Eyualem running at a track meet.



Answer Key:

Word Scramble:

- 1) Trevor Maynard
- 2) Craig Randall
- 3) Jess Benoit
- 4) Rachel Rines
- 5) Blair Kelley
- 6) Kaitlin Clark
- 7) Lana Ciali
- 8) Eyob Eyualem
- 9) Emily Jasinski

Crossword Puzzle:

Across

3. lifeguard
4. sensei
6. marathon
8. sparring
9. Korea
12. black belt
13. butterfly
15. laps
16. compass
18. water
19. punch

Down

1. blisters
2. cross country
5. balance
7. duck
10. Olympic
11. boulder
13. breathing
14. relay
17. sprint

INKED:
ORHS
STUDENTS
AND
THEIR
TATTOOS

